Acuerdos Bilaterales

Clasificación:	119-2003
Fecha de Ingreso:	25 de noviembre de 2003
Nombre de Acuerdo:	Project Document No GF/2328-2731-4686 A framewortk for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change.
Materia:	Medio Ambiente
Partes:	SG/OEA & United Nations Environment Programme
Referencia:	UNEP
Fecha de Firma:	30 de setiembre de 2003
Fecha de Inicio:	
Fecha de Terminación:	
Lugar de Firma:	
Unidad Encargada:	
Persona Encargada:	
Original:	
Claves:	
Cierre del proceso:	

United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة · 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT · PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

UNEP

Our Reference: PMS:GF/1040-03-02
IMIS: GFL/2328-2731-4686

Date: 13 October, 2003

Dear Sir,

Subject: Project Document - No. GF/2328-2731-4686: A Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with Respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change

Please find attached a signed copy of the signed Project Document for your records.

Best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Sergey Kurdjukov, Officer-in-charge
Budget and Financial Management Service (UNON)

Mr. R Meganck
Director – Unit of Sustainble Development and Environment
1889 F Street, NW, Room 340
Washing, DC 20006 United States of America

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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

PROJECT DOCUMENT

SECTION 1 - PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 **Sub-Programme Title:** International Waters - 9: Land and Water

1.2 **Project Title:** A Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with Respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change.

1.3 **Project Number:**
IMIS: GFL/2731-03-4686
PMS: GF/1040-03-02

1.4 **Geographical Scope:**
Regional: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay

1.5 **Implementation:**
General Secretariat of the Organization of American States referred to interchangeably in this Project Document as GS/OAS and OAS(GS/OAS)
Phone: +1-202-4583556
Fax: +1-202-4583560

1.6 **Duration of the Project:**
18 months
Commencing: 01 September 2003
Completion: 28 February 2005

1.7 **Cost of the Project:**

		US Dollars	%age
Cost to the GEF Trust Fund		700,000.00.00	44.71
Co-financing (in-kind):			
- Countries thru'CIC	467,800.00		
- WMO	100,000.00		
- AAAS	16,000.00		
- GS/OAS	35,000.00		
- UNEP	35,000.00		
Sub-total co-financing (in-kind)		*653,800.00*	*41.94*
Co-financing (in-cash):			
- FONPLATA	155,000.00		
Sub-total co-financing (in cash)		*155,000.00*	*9.94*
PDF-A's cost to the GEF trust fund		25,000.00	1.60
- OAS's (cash & in-kind) co-financing	15,000.00		
- UNEP's (in-kind) co-financing	5,000.00		
- Brazil's (in-kind) co-financing	5,000.00		
PDF-A's co-financing		*25,000.00*	*1.60*
Total Cost of the Project		**1,558,800.00**	**100.00**

1.7 **Project Summary:**

The la Plata Basin provides a microcosm of many of the world's large river basins, being at once inclusive of a number of countries, overwhelmed by problems that include urbanisation, land degradation, and poorly-controlled discharges of industrial and agricultural contaminants—including the occurrence and discharge of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) at many points in the Basin. However, the established institutional structure, in contrast to many of the world's large river basins, provides a framework in the la Plata Basin within which the sustainable management of the system can occur.

This project will strengthen the efforts of the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay, and Uruguay to implement their shared vision for the environmentally and socially sustainable economic development of the la Plata Basin, specifically in the areas of the protection and integrated management of its water resources and adaptation to climatic change and variability.

The PDF-B activities will be preparing the first phase of a potential three-phased project that will co-ordinate actions between the five Basin countries and address common problems that affect and are likely to affect the shared water resources of the la Plata Basin.

Signatures:

For the UNEP Environment Fund:

Mr. Sergey Kurdjukov
Officer-in-Charge
Budget and Financial Management
Service, UNON

30 September 2003
Date:

For the GS/OAS:

Mr. César Gaviria
Secretary General

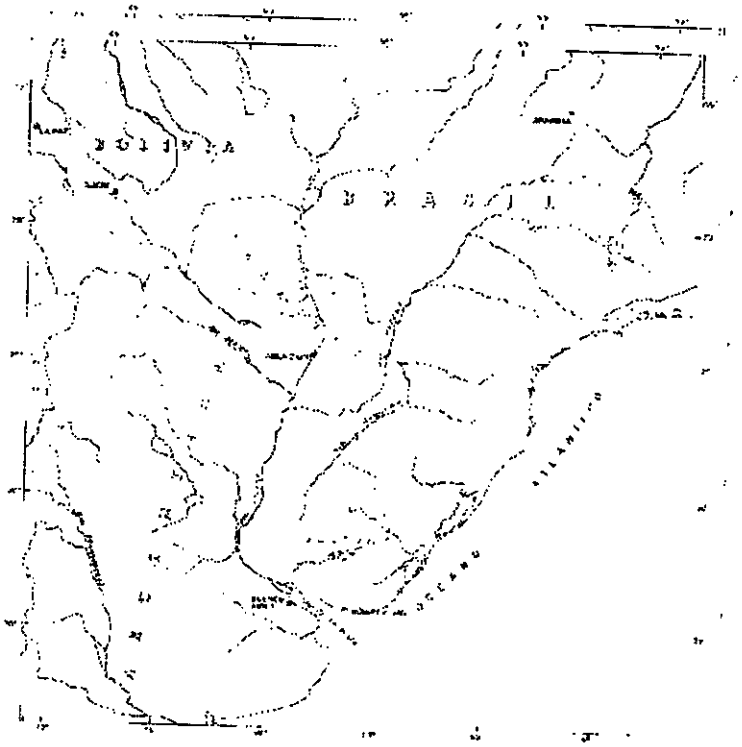
Date: 9/22/03

SECTION 2 - BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SUB-PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE FOR GEF FUNDING

Basin Description

1. The la Plata River is one of the great rivers of the world. Draining approximately one-fifth of the South American continent, extending over some 3.1 million km^2, and conveying waters from central portions of the continent to the south-western Atlantic Ocean, the la Plata River system rivals the better-known Amazon River system in terms of its biological and habitat diversity, and far exceeds that system in its economic importance to southern and central South America. The la Plata Basin includes almost all the southern part of Brasil, the south-eastern part of Bolivia, a large part of Uruguay, the whole of Paraguay, and an extensive part of northern Argentina. It accounts for 17 percent of the surface area of the South American continent. The Basin is comprised of three large river systems; namely, the Paraná River, the Paraguay River, and the Uruguay River. Each of these waterways has unique characteristics that reflect the source waters of the rivers as well as the human influences that define their flow patterns and environmental status. In addition, water that infiltrates into the groundwater system from within the Basin provides recharge for the Guarani Aquifer, one of the largest continental groundwater reservoirs in the world. Map 1 shows the location of the la Plata River Basin and its component drainage systems, additional details of which appear in **Annex II**.



PLATA BASIN

2. In a recently published review, the World Resources Institute named the la Plata River system as being among those watersheds of the world having the highest numbers of endemic fishes (in the Paraguay River sub-basin), the highest numbers of endemic birds (the Parana River sub-basin), and the highest numbers of major dams (the Parana River sub-basin).1 The diversity of fishes and bird life illustrates the diversity of landforms within the la Plata River Basin. Arising on the eastern slopes of the Andes Mountains, at altitudes above 4,000 m, the Paraguay River sub-basin extends across the vast expanse of the central plains of South America, including the diverse Chaco ecosystem and globally-significant Pantanal wetlands. The South American Chapada de Parecis and Planalto, or highlands, with elevations of about 500 m, that separate the la Plata Basin from the Amazon Basin, form the headwaters of the Parana River and Uruguay River sub-basins which rise in the east.

3. Superimposed upon this geographic Basin and its unique natural resources is the economic heartland of Latin America. Thirty-one large dams and fifty-seven large cities, each with populations in excess of 100,000 persons and including the capital cities of Brasil, Paraguay, Argentina, and Uruguay, are to be found within this Basin. The total human population of the Basin is estimated to be approximately 67 million individuals.

Environmental Issues and Concerns

4. This intense human activity, and its associated rapid urbanisation and accompanying deforestation of lands for cultivation, has increased runoff to the rivers, modified local climatic conditions (e.g., humidity, temperature, and wind speeds), and, due to the area of the la Plata Basin, impacted the global climate.

5. These processes and their associated hydrological changes increase the natural variability inherent in the behaviour of the water resources of the Basin. Consequently, floods are larger and more frequent, and flood-drought cycles recur more often. Under these conditions, infiltration into, and recharge of, aquifers is reduced. Further, this rapid urbanisation and trend toward mechanised agriculture alters both surface and ground water flow patterns—by placing layers of asphalt and concrete, compacting soils, and building appurtenant structures over the land surface—and increases the sources and rates of delivery of contaminants to streams and aquifers. These changes are not limited by the national frontiers, but have clear transboundary consequences that must be addressed at the Basin scale, as envisioned under Operational Strategy Program 9 of the International Waters focal area.

Context

6. From the beginning, the scope of this undertaking was apparent: not only were the interrelationships between the water, land, and biosphere exceedingly complex and varied, but so, too, were the nature and number of concrete and critical problems. Nevertheless, a process was initiated by the countries of the la Plata River Basin, beginning with a technical meeting convened during September 2001 by the Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee for the la Plata Basin (CIC), to seek support for the idea of formulating a strategy for water resources management within the la Plata River Basin.[2] At this meeting, the representatives agreed to

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[1] Revenga, C., S. Murray, J. Abramovitz, and A. Hammond, *Watersheds of the World: Ecological Value and Vulnerability*, World Resources Institute and Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC, 1998, 205 pp.

[2] This meeting was held during the IV Inter-American Dialogue on Water Resources Management. Participants included the institutions responsible for water resources, the Ministries of External Relations of the five countries signatory to the la Plata Basin Treaty, the Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee for the la Plata River (CIC), and the individuals in charge of various programs and projects relating to the use and management of water resources in the la Plata River Basin. Many of these persons were staff from the four GEF International Waters projects being executed within the la Plata Basin and its coastal zone: i) Implementation of the Strategic Action Program for the Bermejo River Binational Basin: Phase I (Argentina-Bolivia); ii) Integrated Management of Land-Based Activities in the São Francisco

support an initiative proposed by the government of Brasil to seek GEF funding through UNEP and, with the support of the other Basin countries of the CIC, to identify and formulate an appropriate project to achieve this goal.

7. Subsequently, technical meetings were convened in Sao Paulo, Brasil, during April 2002—with the assistance of GEF PDF Block A funding, and in Buenos Aires, Argentina, during June 2002. The outcome of these meetings advanced the agreement achieved to date, and instructed the Secretary General of the CIC to elaborate a proposal to develop a Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin (Decision CIC N° 2/02-528).[3] These meetings identified the main topics of common interest that affect the sustainability of development in the la Plata Basin:

- **Socio-economic and institutional issues:** The mechanism to facilitate measures to mitigate current and future impacts is contained within the Treaty of the la Plata Basin. The Treaty expresses the will of the countries to advance their economic development in a sustainable manner, and, within the CIC, the existing basin institution was strengthened in the areas of environmental management and technical capacity to co-ordinate a programme of integrated management among the five countries signatory to the Treaty.

- **Hydrological issues:** The rivers of the la Plata Basin are subject to pressures that have modified their natural hydrological regime, and that can further modify the quantity and quality of their waters. These pressures are fundamentally: i) extraordinary variations in the hydrological regime partly linked to variations and changes in climate and ii) factors associated with land use changes, population growth, urbanisation, and agricultural, industrial and infrastructure development.

- **Multi-national and regional issues:** The consequences of these pressures are not restricted to specific countries, but are of a transboundary character. These pressures will surely increase into the future as the Basin countries continue enlarge their agricultural and industrial development bases, and provision of services, to improve the living standards of their increasing populations. Recognising the importance of co-ordinated and joint action to manage and protect the water resources of the Basin, the countries of the region have created the CIC as a mechanism to co-ordinate their activities in the Basin. Likewise, recognising the benefits of co-operation in the sustainable economic development of the region, the countries have created the Southern Common Market, MERCOSUR/MERCOSUL, which has adopted an environmental policy supportive of regional-scale action to develop and management the region's natural resources.

Global Significance and Project Rationale

8. This agreement, together with the existing organisations within the la Plata Basin, and the ongoing initiatives currently being undertaken by the Basin countries, provide a singular opportunity to develop and implement measures to manage one of the world's large river basins in a co-ordinated and sustainable manner. As noted in **Annex II**, the la Plata Basin provides a microcosm of many of the world's large river basins, being at once inclusive of a number of

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Basin (Brasil); iii) Integrated Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Guarani Aquifer System (Argentina-Brasil-Paraguay-Uruguay); and, iv) Environmental Protection of the la Plata River and its Maritime Front: the Prevention and Control of Pollution and the Restoration of Habitat (Argentina-Uruguay).

[3] These meetings, conducted under the auspices of the CIC, had the participation of representatives from the five Basin countries, UNEP (as GEF Implementing Agency), and the OAS (as Executing Agency), and formed preparatory technical meetings prior to meetings of the CIC.

countries, overwhelmed by problems that include urbanisation, land degradation, and poorly-controlled discharges of industrial and agricultural contaminants—including the occurrence and discharge of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) at many points in the Basin. However, the established institutional structure, in contrast to many of the world's large river basins, provides a framework in the la Plata Basin within which the sustainable management of the system can occur. Thus, the likely global benefit to accrue from the conduct of this multi-phased project will be a framework for action that can serve as a model for application in other large river basins. In this regard, the la Plata Basin is uniquely positioned in that the countries of the Basin are largely united by a common culture, within a multi-lingual environment.

Co-ordination Amongst Ongoing Projects and Programmes

9. There are benefits to this multi-faceted approach. The primary benefit accrues to the la Plata Basin, as a whole, as a consequence of the enhanced basis for decision-making and the increased likelihood of achieving conditions favourable to the sustainable utilisation of the Basin's water resources, while continuing the economic development of the region.

10. It has been an hallmark of the GEF approach to International Water projects to address key environmental issues at specific "hot spots." In this regard, the seminal work of the Organization of American States (OAS) in preparing a Basin-wide planning programme during the 1960s has been the major factor in the derivation of these specific interventions, and a key element in identifying the need and priority of the current GEF-funded interventions.[4] These efforts provide both the context and foundation for the current framework project.

11. Ongoing GEF-IW initiatives within the la Plata Basin embody the "hot spot" concept, and constitute interventions of significance within the Basin. The project being implemented within Bermejo River sub-basin represents a strategic programme to manage the major source area for sediment generation within the la Plata Basin; the project being implemented within the Upper Paraguay River sub-basin represents a strategic programme to protect and preserve a wetland of global significance (the Pantanal); the project being implemented at the Maritime Front represents a strategic programme to sustainably manage fisheries resources within an highly urbanised and extremely active transportation corridor; while the Guarani Aquifer project represents the initiation of a strategic programme to protect and sustainably utilise the groundwater resources underlying the Basin.

12. While each of these interventions, in isolation, addresses key environmental and developmental issues within the Basin, the range of projects so executed ignores the connectivity of the la Plata Basin as an hydrological entity. The current project, therefore, is designed to provide a framework to better integrate and more widely disseminate the outputs and results of the projects currently being executed in the component sub-basins of this larger hydrologic unit. This approach reinforces the regional concept of the GEF and creates essential synergy between the ongoing suite of projects in the Basin, enhancing opportunities for replication, and strengthening their sustainability.

2.2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND GEF PROGRAMMING CONTEXT

Regional Priorities, Programmes, and Actions

13. This project continues the spirit of co-operation among the countries of the la Plata Basin that began in 1967, when the five countries created the Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee for the la Plata Basin. The signature of the Treaty of the la Plata Basin two years

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[4] *Cuenca del Rio del la Plata: Estudio para su Planificacion y Desarrollo, Inventario de Datos Hidrologicos y Climatologicos*, Secretaria General de la Organizacion de los Estados Americanos, Washington, DC: 1969, 272 pp.

later resulted in the CIC being constituted as the main instrument for the execution of the Treaty's main objective: ".... to promote the harmonious development and physical integration of the basin, in its areas of direct and immediate influence." Since that time, the CIC has emphasised areas of common interest among the five countries and has facilitated the conduct of studies, programmes and works within the Basin, in the fields of hydrology, natural resources, transportation and navigation, soil conservation, and energy. Additionally, the CIC has contributed to the development within the Basin of operational standards and guidelines in the area of water quality.

14. Notwithstanding, the Treaty of the la Plata Basin was never conceived as an exclusive option for agreements and co-operation among the participating states but rather as a mechanism to amplify and enhance the actions of the participating countries. In this regard, the Financial Fund for the la Plata Basin (FONPLATA) was created within the framework of the Treaty during 1976 to lend financial support to the activities envisioned in the Treaty. A series of other agreements, both within the framework of the la Plata Treaty and supplemental to it, have led to the creation of more than 20 institutions and operational agencies having direct responsibilities for the use and management of the Basin's water resources.

15. While the diversity of institutions highlights the interest in resolving shared problems when they affect two or more countries, it also highlights the fragmentation and segmentation that prevails, often to the detriment of the "basin vision" that led to the Treaty. Few of these institutions communicate either directly or through the CIC. An important example of this was the formation, in 1992, of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Paraná-Paraguay Waterway or Hidrovía (CIH). Theoretically this body, as others created previously, was to be co-ordinated by the CIC; however, the reality is that this committee and many of the others are autonomous.

16. The signature of the Treaty of Asunción, in 1991, created the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR/MERCOSUL), and called into question the continuity of the CIC. However, the Conference of Foreign Secretaries of the la Plata Basin, the Supreme Organ of the la Plata Treaty, in Montevideo, Uruguay, reaffirmed the CIC during December 2001, and created the office of Secretary General (revolving among the countries). This Conference also created a [Technical] Projects Unit "...under Article 1 of the Treaty...to revitalise the operating system of the organism, including the creation of linkages with other technical and financial institutions within the la Plata Basin...". This project is consistent with the Program of Action subsequently agreed by the countries within the framework of the CIC (See **Annex III**).

International Context

17. The development of basin-scale agreements, programmes, plans, and policies is wholly consistent with the process established at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), wherein water resources were identified as a major component not only of economic development but also in achieving sustainable utilisation of shared natural resources. This project responds specifically to WSSD Programmes of Intervention (POI) paragraphs 23-25, 27, 38, 60, 67 and 104. These priority issues are internalised within the GEF International Waters focal area in Strategic Priority IW-1, which seeks to catalyse financial resources for the sustainable management of freshwater resources through the TDA-SAP, or equivalent, process. In this context, the CIC, through its Technical Projects Unit, and in the context of the Southern Common Market within which the la Plata Basin is located, provides an established economic and political mechanism for executing the necessary actions to rehabilitate and protect one of the world's great river systems, its associated drainage basin, and maritime coastal zone. The CIC demonstrates the importance placed by the Basin countries on the la Plata Basin, and on the need for co-ordinated and sustainable utilisation of its waters, drainage basin, and biological resources. The active participation of the countries within the CIC and the recent creation of the Technical Unit for Projects within the CIC (see implementation arrangements, below) underline

not only this importance, but also bode well for a sustainable and active implementation of the project outcomes.

2.3 SUMMARY PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

Long-term Objective

18. The general objective of the phased project is to strengthen the efforts of the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay, and Uruguay to implement their shared vision for the environmentally and socially sustainable economic development of the la Plata Basin, specifically in the areas of the protection and integrated management of its water resources and adaptation to climatic change and variability. Co-ordinated and locally executed by the CIC, within and through its comprehensive structure and with extensive and ongoing participation by stakeholders as set forth in section E below, the phased project will harmonise and prepare for further implementation, in co-operation with the Basin countries, a programme of strategic actions for the sustainable management of the la Plata Basin.

Short-term and Intermediate Objectives

19. Specifically, in total, the project is designed to:

(i) strengthen the **technical capacity of the CIC** in planning and co-ordinating the integrated and sustainable development and management of the environment of the la Plata Basin;

(ii) advance the practice of integrated water resources management and adaptation to climatic change, by increasing the **knowledge and decision-making capacity** of the country-based institutions and technicians responsible for the scientific analysis and prediction of climatic change phenomena and their social, economic and environmental impacts;

(iii) implement a common strategic **vision of the Basin** as a basis for planning, sustainable development, and integrated management of water resources in the Basin, basis for an agreed **Mega-Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)** that identifies the root causes of the principle environmental problems of the la Plata Basin in order to characterise, quantify, and define the strategic actions necessary for their resolution;

(iv) formulate agreed and integrated **watershed management programmes**, based upon the Mega-TDA, a shared Framework Strategic Action Programme (**FSAP**), and a common vision of Basin, that will advance the definition of, and agreement on, high-priority actions needed to formulate and implement policies, develop capacities and management instruments, and channel investments that not only protect the shared resources but also allow efforts to advance the economic and social development of the Basin in sustainable form;

(v) identify the water resources that are at the greatest environmental risk (i.e., to identify critical areas and issues, and so-called "hot spots"), and **define and prioritise projects** for execution aimed at the restoration and protection of critical transboundary waters, taking into account both scientific information and information on cost and feasibility of remedial measures generated by the Bermejo, Upper Paraguay-Pantanal, Guarani, and Maritime Front GEF-IW projects; and

(vi) integrate the work of groups, and facilitate the **participation of responsible institutions, interested organisations, and stakeholders** in each country, to prepare and execute the recommended actions in a sustainable and co-ordinated manner.

Project Description

20. Building upon both the ongoing efforts of the countries of the la Plata Basin, funded in part through funds provided under the GEF-IW focal area, and the foundational work of the OAS, the project will focus on five principle areas of shared concern all being interconnected and interdependent and forming part of a progressive approach. The activities outlined here are indicative. A major element of the PDF, Block B, process will involve the further definition of activities for project execution.

21. The outcome of the 4-5 year project, collectively, will shape the future management programme for the la Plata Basin focussing on foundational work both at the policy and institutional levels creating a basin-wide enabling environment for subsequent major sub-basin strategic actions formulation and implementation.

22. The overall outputs of the project activities, inclusive of the outputs of the Project Development Facility-funded activities, will be (1) an institutional and political structure and (2) a framework for the comprehensive, integrated, and sustainable environmental programme of economic development within the la Plata Basin.

23. The components of the 4-5 year project include (see concept paper for more detailed information) include:

(i) setting-up the institutional arrangements for the phased project, the conduct of project activities, and stakeholder and public participation, under the auspices of the CIC;

(ii) enhancing the capacity of the five countries to predict the likely impacts of climatic change and hydrologic variability through the identification of common concerns, strategies—including the selection of appropriate basin-scale models and related forecasting tools (e.g. flood and drought forecasting and modelling), and local institutional resources and associated human capacity with a view to improving regional planning processes and serving as the basis for the formulation of a harmonized regional legislative framework for the protection of wetlands, reservoir operations, land use, etc.;

(iii) promoting the dissemination of the common vision for the basin, and its water and natural resources, as developed during the project formulation phase, developing a holistic diagnostic analysis of shared, transboundary concerns at the basin level (Mega-TDA) incorporating TDAs completed for the major sub-basins;

(iv) executing demonstration projects and other interventions as appropriate to address critical themes (e.g. developing a regional legislative framework for sustainable fisheries, protecting aquatic biodiversity, enhancing carbon sequestration in the Chaco, implementing innovative environmentally-friendly technologies for energy production, managing reservoir operation,...) and areas (i.e. "hot spots" such as the land degradation in the Chaco, conservation of aquatic biodiversity in the Paraná basin, etc.) and identified during the project formulation phase; and

(v) building on eth outputs of each component (see 1-4 above), elaborating a framework of strategic actions (FSAP) for the integrated management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin within which more localised watershed management programmes will be developed and implemented.

24. The results of the project activities will be an institutional and political structure that will underpin the elaboration and implementation of a comprehensive, integrated, and

sustainable programme of economic development within the la Plata Basin. The project will focus specifically on issues related to regional policy and law as issues of special concern, including management of droughts and floods, by focussing action on the harmonisation of laws and regulations, and development and implementation of land use planning, wetland and floodland management and conservation, and restoration of riparian woodland corridors. The outputs of the project activities will be an agreed Mega-TDA, an agreed Basin Vision (developed during the PDF process preceding the project), that will form the basis for a Framework Strategic Action Programme for the la Plata Basin, a Framework Strategic Action Programme for the la Plata Basin (FSAP), the technical basis—including the selection of appropriate basin-scale models and related forecasting tools, and local institutional resources and associated human capacity—for creating a Centre for the Prediction of Climate Change and Hydrologic Variability, and operationalisation of the a documentation centre (developed during the PDF), integrated digital mapping program of the Basin (developed during the PDF), and stakeholder participation process. Pilot demonstration projects on restoration of wetland and riparian vegetation, land management, and river regulation are envisioned during this phase.

2.4 IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS, STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION, AND SUSTAINABILITY

25. The CIC is the agency established by the five signatory countries to the Treaty of the la Plata Basin, and the agency tasked by the countries to provide the institutional framework within which this GEF-funded project is to be executed. The CIC will be the local executing agency of the project. The CIC will have the technical and administrative support of the General Secretariat of the OAS—through the Unit of Sustainable Development and Environment and the offices of the OAS in each of the five countries—and of UNEP, as the GEF Implementing Agency.[5]

26. The agreement of a new statute for the CIC, approved by the five countries during December 2001, created a Commission of ten representatives and their alternates, two from each of the five basin countries. One of the representatives to the Commission is a political representative, charged with plenipotentiary powers by their governments, and the other is a technical specialist. The technical representatives for the Unit for the la Plata River Basin Project (PU-CIC). This Unit will co-ordinate and develop the technical aspects of the proposed project: (i) constituting the organ that will internalise agreed regional actions in each of the Basin countries, (ii) forming the channel by which proposals are developed, and (iii) catalysing the preparation and execution of the program for the development of the Framework Strategic Action Program for the la Plata River Basin.

27. The CIC will secure agreement on the project, and initiate their role in co-ordinating the integrated management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin, pursuant to their mission: "...CIC is the permanent organ that promotes, coordinates and integrates the multinational actions guiding to the best use of the resources of the la Plata Basin and the harmonious and balanced development of the region, through the achievement of the objectives set forth in the Treaty of the la Plata Basin and the Resolutions of the Meetings of Foreign Ministers."

28. Each country has defined the institution(s) responsible for the co-ordination of project execution within the country, and each country participates in the CIC through their National Technical Representative. The co-ordinating institutions responsible for the execution of the project in each country are:

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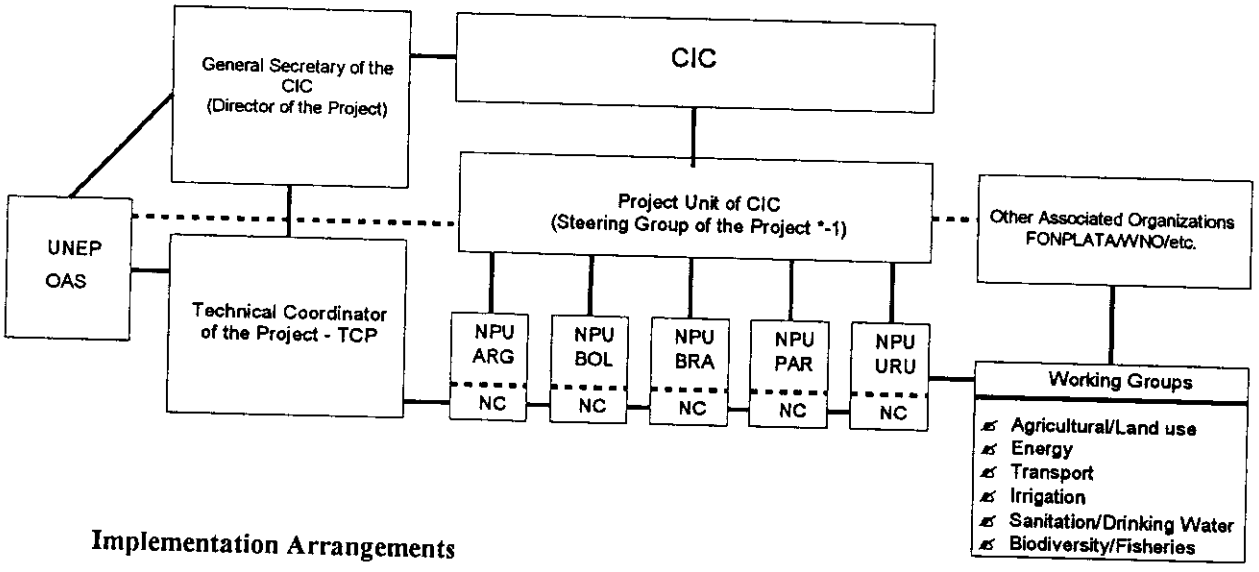
[5] While UNEP is proposed as the GEF Implementing Agency—given the regional character of the project, UNEP's relationship to the GIWA project, and UNEP's role in the previous international waters projects being executed in critical sub-basins of the la Plata Basin—the participation of The World Bank and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is considered indispensable and will be welcomed during the preparation and conduct of the Project.

- In Argentina, Sub-Secretariat for Water Resources of the Nation;
- In Bolivia, Vice-Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning;
- In Brasil, Secretariat of Water Resources, Ministry of the Environment;
- In Paraguay, General Directorate for the Protection and Conservation of Water Resources, Secretariat for the Environment (SEAM); and
- In Uruguay, National Directorate of Hydrography (DNH), Ministry of Transportation and Public Works (MTOP).

29. These institutions will be the responsible for constituting and co-ordinating with the NPU in each country, and identifying and addressing the formalities considered necessary, with overall co-ordination by the Secretary General of the CIC, as Local Executing Agency.

Organigram for the Preparation of the Project



Implementation Arrangements

30. The institutional arrangements agreed for the preparation of the project (shown in Diagram 1, above) reflect the governance arrangements within the CIC. While these arrangements will be further refined during the project preparation phase, certain elements may be anticipated based upon the governing document of the CIC approved by the Meeting of Foreign Ministers from the la Plata Basin during December 2001, the CIC is comprised of two regular representatives and two alternates from each Basin country. One of these representatives is political, invested by their government with plenipotentiary authority, and the other representative is technical, being a project specialist. The technical representatives form the Unit for Projects in the la Plata Basin System (PU-CIC). The PU-CIC is the agency within the CIC that is charged with: i) co-ordinating and implementing regional agreements through institutional action within each country, ii) supporting and sustaining environmental management efforts in the Basin, and, at the conclusion of the project, iii) preparing and executing the Framework Strategic Action Program that will be produced as the outcome of this project.

31. The Secretary General of the CIC will be the Director of the Project. In this role, the Secretary General will co-ordinate the technical work of the project and oversee preparation of

the project document (Project Briefs for the three phases). The OAS will hire, in consultation and with the guarantee of the General Secretary of the CIC and the national technical representatives of each country (in accordance with its norms and administrative procedures) and in close consultation with UNEP, a Technical Co-ordinator of the Project (PTC) who will be specialist in integrated handling of the water resources with wide experience in the topic and in the preparation of projects. The PTC will work with headquarters in the offices of the CIC in Buenos Aires and it will travel to the countries when it is necessary.

32. The PU-CIC will serve as a Technical Committee overseeing the scientific aspects of the project. This Committee is comprised of the Technical Representatives from the institutions in each country charged with developing policies for the management of water resources in each country. In addition, UNEP, the OAS, FONPLATA, and the other implementing agencies of the GEF (The World Bank and UNDP) will be invited to attend meetings relating to this project. In addition, representatives from other associated institutions that are collaborating in the financing and execution of the project will be invited to attend—these latter institutions being present in an *ex officio* capacity.

33. During the preparation of the project and for the entire phased approach, each country will form a National Project Unit (NPU), acting as an inter-ministerial committee, that will co-ordinate between the institutions responsible for water resources management policy and integrate each government's institutional participation with that of the academic organisations and civil society participating in the Project. Since project preparation and execution is conceived as a consensus building process among the countries, the Activities will be developed on the basis of workshops, organised according to Component, and based on the existing institutions in each country. This process is envisioned as a means of facilitating the active participation and involvement of academic institutions and organisations from civil society. These consensus-building events (seminars and formal and informal meetings, national and international workshops, etc.) will be prepared with the support of consultants specialised in the subjects to be discussed. The consultants will act as facilitators of the process and catalyse the proposals agreed among the participants in the workshops. To guide these discussions and incorporate their outputs into the technical proposals those concerns that reflect a national consensus on high-priority topics, the National Project Units will synthesise the inputs of specific Work Groups, created under the institutional auspices of the competent national agencies as a means of elaborating consensus on each specific topic.

34. Each National Project Unit will identify a National Co-ordinator (NC) who will communicate with the CIC and the OAS. The NC, ideally, will be the Technical Representative to the CIC, or a designated official of the NPU. The NPU will be funded as part of the country-based co-financing designated for this project. This co-financing will include the costs of a compensation package based upon prevailing national rates in each country, dedicated technical staff time, and corresponding operational expenses.

35. As noted above, UNEP will be the Implementing Agency and the General Secretariat of the OAS, through the Unit of Sustainable Development and Environment, will be responsible for the preparation of the project in support of the CIC, co-ordinating with the office of the Secretary General of the CIC. The OAS, through their national offices, will administer the funds and support project activities in each participating country and co-ordinate technical services provided to the project from their headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Stakeholder Participation

36. During the preparation of the project, the active participation of organised interest groups will be promoted by: i) the participation of key representatives in the events, workshops and meetings, and ii) the participation of specialised local consultants in the development of a public participation plan and the execution of the education and communication component of

the project. Such participation will be facilitated through both informal meetings in the countries and formal meetings at the national and international levels.

37. At the basin scale, public participation will be enhanced by the involvement of basin authorities, civil organisations, consortia and associations of municipalities, public companies and public service providers, unions, universities, and other networks. In addition, a more direct form of user participation will be through the participation of lenders and service providers in pilot demonstration projects addressing specific critical areas and topics ("hot spots"). Through this process, the participants will develop "ownership" of the total project, knowing that their participation has helped to shape the proposals presented at the end of the project preparation process. In addition, the participation of these actors will develop concrete commitments and encourage complementary actions in support of the studies elaborated in the phased project documents. Further, as an element of ensuring the sustainability of the project, it is anticipated that this process of public participation in the preparation of the project will be formalised in a Plan for Public Participation, Education and Social Communication that will be incorporated into the Framework Strategic Action Plan.

Sustainability

38. The sustainability of the project is inherent in the strengthening of the CIC, as Local Executing Agency, and of the competent national institutions, acting in the different areas that the project proposes to address. The commitment of the different institutional and jurisdictional entities of the participating countries with competence in integrated water resources management (water-earth-climate), and of the organisations of civil society, will strengthen a process that already extends over more than 30 years of official initiatives and policy development.

Replicability

39. The dissemination of the phased project outcomes will initially be co-ordinated with the opportunities for stakeholder involvement in the total project. Responsible participation of the Basin's educated population is to be encouraged through the workshops and seminars. These opportunities are to be included in each one of the activities included in the project preparation phase, and in each of the major project components. An interactive Internet page, guided virtual dialogues on topics and matters of interest relating the project, and similar opportunities for participation of the general populace will be provided. Project documents will be posted on a world-wide web site to be designed and managed by a consultant specialised in social communication and engaged for this purpose. Through the use of Internet media such as the IWRN and IW:LEARN, the results and outputs of the project can be widely disseminated. Additional opportunities for sharing the project results and outputs are provided through inter-governmental meetings, scientific symposia, and events such as the Fifth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Resources Management (Dialogue V) and Fourth World Water Forum, which will occur during the currency of this project. Also, as previously noted, the active interest of the la Plata Basin countries in the co-ordinated management of the resources of the Basin, as evidenced through the CIC, its units, and sister organisations in the region, provides not only a basis for sustainability but also a vehicle for replicability in and adjacent to the Basin.

SECTION 3 – OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

3.1 Description of PDF B Activities

40. The past two decades have witnessed important efforts to generate information, exchange data, and build technical capacity within the la Plata Basin. The PDF-B activities, set

forth below, build on this momentum by preparing the first phase of a potential three-phased project as outlined above, that will co-ordinate actions between the five Basin countries and address common problems that affect and are likely to affect the shared water resources of the la Plata Basin.

41. These activities, which are wholly incremental in nature, are proposed to be funded in part through the financial support of a PDF Block B grant by the GEF in the amount of US$700,000. In addition, the CIC has received funding through FONPLATA (US$155,000) and has committed support from governments and other agencies (US$471,100), including the WMO and AAAS.

42. Completion of these project development activities within 18 months will allow the five Basin countries, within the framework of the CIC as local executing agency, to define the parameters, establish terms of reference, and determine the components and activities to be included in the GEF project Phase I. The outcome of the activities set forth below will be the preparation of a project document (Project Brief) for a first full size project. This document will not only guide the application for GEF funds, but also stimulate parallel actions to strengthen the common vision of the Basin and is integrated management, through an institutionally effective and technically strengthened CIC.

43. The preparation of the project will involve the institutions in each country responsible for defining the policies required for the sustainable and integrated management of water resources, including substantive participation from the appropriate national environmental institutions should water resources responsibilities be spread across several agencies.

44. These five core elements form the components of the PDF-B activities set forth below. These Activities are further elaborated in detail in **Annex X**, which sets forth the component task areas to be considered under each Activity.

Activity 1. **Strengthening Institutional Arrangements for the Integrated Management of the Basin, and Arrangements for the Preparation of the Project**

45. Activity 1 addresses the key issue of fragmented and weak institutions that currently characterise the basis for the management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin. The restructured CIC, as of December 2001, was the first step toward creating a more efficient management mechanism for the la Plata Basin. The conduct by the CIC of the activities required to prepare the project is a continuation of this process, and further advances are proposed to be achieved throughout the process of preparing the Project.

46. This Activity has five complementary and interactive components:

i) strengthening of the CIC and their capacity to prepare the Project [The technical and financial capacity of the General Secretariat of the CIC will be evaluated and mechanisms and instruments for strengthening its capacity will be proposed. Terms of reference for strengthening the institutional arrangements for the integrated management of the basin and project execution will then be formulated];

ii) promotion of public participation in the process and formulation of a public participation/multi-stakeholder and consultation programme ;

iii) formulation of a Monitoring and Evaluation plan which will condition the M&E activities for the entire phased project;

iv) creation and dissemination of information on the proposed project; and

v) preparation of the project document (Project Brief).

47. The cost of this Activity is US$719,500. GEF: US$240,700; co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US$337,800, from FONPLATA in the amount of US$55,000, and from UNEP and the OAS, each, in the amount of US$35,000 (in kind).

Activity 2. Predicting the Impacts of Climatic Variability and Change on the Hydrology of the la Plata Basin.

48. This Activity will elaborate the scope and terms of reference necessary to develop capacity within the la Plata Basin to predict, with more certainty, the impacts and consequences of climatic variability (short and medium term) and change (long term) on the water resources of the Basin. The Activity will initiate a process that will culminate in the establishment of a Centre for the Prediction of Climate Change and Hydrologic Variability. Activity 2 will be carried out by VAMOS/PLATIN, in close collaboration with RIGA and the AAAS: specifically, VAMOS/PLATIN will convene an international workshop and work groups assembled from among the representatives of the various participating programs to define, in detail, the hydrological and soils data required; the AAAS will co-ordinate the development of the conceptual framework and data base within which land use, hydrological, and development patterns are defined; and, RIGA will co-ordinate the follow-up investigations and refinements of the hydrological infrastructure and water resource management strategies in the Basin. Additional support will be provided by the WMO and World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), and the institutions of higher education in the la Plata Basin.

49. This Activity will include the development of methodologies for the efficient incorporation from the various components needed to carry out predictions of impacts under a range of scenarios, including selection of models to be used, and provide guidelines for the forecasting system to be prepared during the GEF project in the Basin. At the same time, the activity will facilitate collection of required information for the design and operation of such systems. A distinctive and innovative aspect of this Activity is the co-ordination of efforts at the most advanced levels of scientific and technological knowledge in creating a system designed from the beginning to satisfy users' needs. The process will be based on compiling results from different groups, acting independently form one of another, and whose outputs alone would have a much more narrow focus.

50. The cost of this Activity is US$176,800. GEF: US$150,500, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US$26,300.

Activity 3. Development of a Common Vision of the la Plata Basin and Formulation of the TDA framework.

51. This Activity will generate consensus agreements on the objectives that the Basin communities have for the la Plata Basin. This consensus will inform the manner in which the Basin countries collaborate in their efforts to sustainably and strategically develop the Basin's resources. Based upon an analysis of the current situation, and the main problems identified, a Vision for the la Plata Basin will be defined and agreed, and, in part, assist in the identification of those issues of transboundary interest to be considered within the Mega-TDA process. It will be the task of the Technical Co-ordinator, with the support of the technical institutions and their staff in the countries, and with input from the specialised consultancies and workshops, to prepare the framework TDA in a manner consistent with the agreed Vision. The framework TDA will guide the further development during the project phase, of sub-basin TDAs to be compiled into a Mega-TDA for the whole basin.

52. The development of the Vision and the TDA framework will be integrated through a process of stakeholder participation at the Basin level, as developed under Activity 2. In addition, this process will integrate the scientific knowledge of the region with the demands of the users, and with the judicial and institutional instruments currently developed by the

governments of the countries. Initially, a consultant with proven experience in the field of the sustainable development will be hired for the purpose of preparing a methodology and working guidelines to conduct a process leading to the development and preparation of the Basin Vision. The national project unit staff, assisted by a qualified facilitator, will conduct national workshops in each of the five Basin countries, on defined themes, with the participation of the competent institutions with an interest in these selected topics, including academic institutions and organisations from civil society. This process will be preceded by informal work group meetings, chaired by the national representatives of the CIC Working Groups, that will prepare the topics and themes for discussion. Through this iterative process, each country will develop a national vision, to be presented at an international seminar and integrated into a shared Vision for the entire basin. Specific attention will be given to gender and generational issues, focusing on women and youth. Based upon the Basin Vision, consultants specialised in the identification, characterisation, and quantification of the transboundary problems and their root causes will prepare the framework TDA, with support of national work groups. This document will be presented and agreed at a second international seminar.

53. The cost of this Activity is US$227,200. GEF: US$147,100, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US$30,100, and from the WMO of US$50,000.

Activity 4. Identification of Pilot Demonstration Projects for the Management of Critical Areas and Topics.

54. During the preparation of the project, and complementing Activity 3, which will define the Basin Vision and characterise and quantify the shared transboundary concerns, specific activities stemming from the experiences of other GEF projects within the Basin will be defined. These topics and areas will be those considered to be most urgent and include those issues on which it is possible to act with immediacy during the period of preparation of the FSAP. These areas and topics will be of such high-priority for action that they will become the subjects of pilot demonstration projects within the Basin. No more than five such projects are currently envisaged; each being essential for resolving and identifying the feasibility and costs associated with specific interventions required for the sustainable management of the Basin's water resources.

55. The terms of reference for these projects will be developed in the necessary detail during the project preparation phase to allow the implementation of the proposed activities, including costs, indicated results, and indicators of success (to be determined by appropriate monitoring and evaluation procedures).

56. The cost of this Activity is US$153,400. GEF: US$27,000, and co-financing from FONPLATA in the amount of US$100,000 and from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US$26,400.

Activity 5. Elaboration of the Process to Prepare a Framework Strategic Action Program (FSAP) for the Integrated Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin.

57. During the preparation of the project, the constituent elements, scope, and terms of reference of the FSAP will be determined, based upon role of the CIC in planning and managing the different activities required to achieve the objective outlined in the project document in an integrated and efficient manner. The constituent elements of the FSAP will be defined by the Basin Vision and the TDA framework, within which the Program will be formulated. The following process is envisaged:

- consolidation of the technical capacity of the CIC to sustain this initiative, efficiently co-ordinate the integrated management of the Basin's water resources in the short, medium and longer terms, and integrate the strengthened capacities of the Basin

countries for the management of information and integration of experiences from this and other GEF projects in the Basin, taking advantage of learned lessons, and developing a Decision Support System for the Basin;

- design of appropriate technical procedures for the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climatic variability and change that will alert communities and prevent and mitigate, to the extent necessary, the occurrence of catastrophic events, particularly of the recurrent floods and droughts that affect the distribution and availability of the water resources of the Basin;
- identification of areas where the development of appropriate technical and economic instruments for the integrated management of the water resources would be desirable to harmonise juridical and institutional frameworks and promote, with the countries, mechanisms for the promulgating appropriate legislation, assisting in the protection of the water resources, and broadly integrating measures to address contamination, erosion, transportation and deposition of silts, and major water use conflicts, for the rational, equitable, and sustainable development of the water resources of the la Plata Basin, through projects and actions that will guide societal, public and private investments toward aspects and key actions for their sustainable development; and,
- promotion of communication and participation of interested stakeholders in the integrated management and sustainable use of water resources through education for the sustainable development.

58. The cost of this Activity is US$231,900. GEF: US$134,700, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US$47,200 and WMO in the amount of US$50,000.

3.2 Eligibility

59. The five participant countries are eligible for financing by the GEF pursuant to paragraph 9b of the Instrument.

3.3 Participation and Sustainability

60. Each country has defined the institution(s) responsible for the co-ordination of project execution within the country, and each country participates in the CIC through their National Technical Representative. The co-ordinating institutions responsible for the execution of the project in each country are:

- In Argentina, Sub-Secretariat for Water Resources of the Nation.
- In Bolivia, Vice-Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning.
- In Brazil, Secretariat of Water Resources, Ministry of the Environment.
- In Paraguay, General Directorate for the Protection and Conservation of Water Resources, Secretariat for the Environment (SEAM).
- In Uruguay, National Directorate of Hydrography (DNH), Ministry of Transportation and Public Works (MTOP).

61. These institutions will be the responsible for constituting and co-ordinating with the NPU in each country, and identifying and addressing the formalities considered necessary. These institutional arrangements will be co-ordinated by the Secretary General of the CIC, as Local Executing Agency.

62. The sustainability of the project is inherent in the strengthening of the CIC, as Local Executing Agency, and of the competent national institutions, acting in the different areas that the project proposes to address. The commitment of the different institutional and jurisdictional entities of the participating countries with competence in integrated water resources

management (water-earth-climate), and of the organisations of civil society, will strengthen a process that already extends over more than 30 years of official initiatives and policy development.

3.2 Results and Outputs of the PDF B Block B

63. The most important output of the PDF-B process will be the preparation of the project brief. This output will be the result of a process whereby the countries will have strengthened the CIC as part of the process of co-ordinating the integrated management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin. Complementing this output will be a defined Vision for the sustainable development of the Basin, with an agreed scope and terms of reference for the development of a framework program of strategic action between the countries and among society. Specifically, outputs of the execution of the PDF Block B program will include:

(i) Terms of reference for strengthening institutional arrangements for the integrated management of the basin, and project execution in its subsequent phases including TORs for the creation of functioning NPUs within each country, together with operational thematic Working Groups on the environment of the Basin. The initiation of the strengthening of the Projects Unit and the General Secretariat of the CIC to formulate programs and projects, co-ordinate the execution of activities between countries, and catalyse co-operation and financing within the la Plata Basin will result from the PDF-B phase;

(ii) A stakeholder and public participation plan;

(iii) An agreed Monitoring and Evaluation plan;

(iv) A Project Brief;

(v) An interactive Digital Map that links key actors and information sources in the la Plata Basin, able to support the preparation of an FSAP, and capable of interfacing with the different existing systems of information—including those of other GEF-financed projects, through the creation of a Centre for Documentation in the la Plata Basin;

(vi) TORs for the design of a system to forecast climatic and hydrological events, which design will be operationalised during the project phase;

(vii) Definition of the technical and instrumental basis, with appropriate terms of reference, for implementing a Decision Support System in the la Plata Basin, addressing, in the first instance, contingency planning with respect to managing catastrophic climatic events in the la Plata Basin;

(viii) Identification of a group of concrete demonstration projects to quantify critical topics and areas, capable of being executed during the period of the formulation of the FSAP, that will provide information and experience in the integrated management of the water resources of the Basin, their costs and feasibilities, to be incorporated into the FSAP;

(ix) Publication of a group of technical documents containing:

- a Vision for the sustainable development of the Basin agreed among the five countries based upon an issue paper on the adoption and implementation of the Vision as it relates to water resources in the Basin,
- a framework for the Mega-Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) aimed at identifying the root causes of, and priorities for action to address, the main environmental problems in the Basin;
- a preliminary characterisation of the climate-water-soils relationship in the la Plata Basin, its current and projected situation, which will form the basis of an improved forecasting system to guide the sustainable development of the Basin and prevent and mitigate the effects of floods and droughts;
- the development of preliminary, integrated climatic models of the la Plata Basin, addressing climatic variability and change, and the prediction of associate disasters, including the definition of terms of reference, costs, and indicators of success;

- the development of preliminary hydrological models of the la Plata Basin, including terms of reference for the elaboration of studies and use of global models (water-soils-climate) of the Basin to be further developed in the FSAP; and
- a cartographic base map of the Basin, linked to up-to-date economic, social, and environmental information.

SECTION 4 - WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE, BUDGET, FOLLOW-UP

4.1 Items to be financed

64. The preparation of the proposed GEF International Waters project is an incremental activity. Notwithstanding, co-financing through contributions from FONPLATA, the WMO and the countries will cover national costs in each case. National costs are defined as the costs of: i) technical personnel, including the National Co-ordinators, NPUs, Work Groups and their technical representatives, and diplomatic representations before the CIC; ii) operational costs of internal meetings and representations before the CIC; and iii) the contributions of local staff, teams, and support personnel. The total cost of the preparation of the project is US$1,326,100, of which US$700,000 is requested from the GEF in this PDF-B project.

65. The GEF PDF Block B funds, as noted above, will finance the activities within the environment of the Basin for the preparation of the project, including: i) consultancy costs and costs of technical co-ordination; ii) costs of national and international meetings programmed for the preparation of the project; iii) costs of international communications; iv) costs for the translation of documents (English-Portuguese-Spanish); and v) travel costs of specialists associated with the execution and the supervision of the preparation of the project.

66. UNEP will contribute the costs associated with the participation of it specialised technical personnel from its GEF Division associated with project supervision and participation in meetings of the Project Steering Committee, as well as the costs associated with the participation in the project of the relevant Fund Management and Administrative Officers.

67. The OAS, through the Unit for Sustainable Development and the Environment, will contribute the costs associated with the contributions of specialised and administrative technical personnel at the headquarters of the OAS and, in the countries, of administrative personnel in its National Offices.

68. Other initiatives, programs, and projects also have associated with this proposal, or have proposed contributions to the project, including, in particular:

- FONPLATA, the financial organism of the la Plata Basin, has provided technical personnel for the meetings incidental to the preparation of this project document, and pursuant to a financing application submitted by the Secretary General of the CIC, has dedicated an amount of US$155,000 to support the CIC in the implementation of this work program and the preparation of the Project, specifically, under Activity 1, to finance the strengthening of the CIC (US$30,000), the first phase of the Digital Mapping (US$25,000), and the preparation of the project document (US$100,000);

- World Meteorological Organization (WMO), who have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Co-operation with the CIC in the amount of US$100,000 to: i) achieve the rational use of the water resources of the la Plata Basin, especially along regulated water courses, ii) improve and facilitate navigation, iii) co-operate in training and professional development, iv) formulate inventory and evaluation projects associated with the use of the natural resources, and v) promote the integration of knowledge within the River Basin;

- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), through their global program on long-term Dynamics of Ecosystems and Essential Human Needs, has selected the la Plata Basin as one of the four critical areas in the world within which to develop a pilot project to improve the scientific knowledge of integrated hydrograph

basins that can be used in the protection of ecosystems as well as for the improvement of economic growth, and will contribute staff time and training to the development of the Digital Map proposed in Activity 1;

- World Program for the Investigation of Climate (PMIC), who created the Climatic Variability Program (CLIVAR) during 1995 to improve knowledge of climatic variability, has established one of their panels in the la Plata and Amazon Basins under the PLATIN program, and, during the period 2002-2005, will contribute, through a multinational financing program, more than US$1.5 million that is dedicated specifically to climatology and hydrology of the la Plata Basin—PLATIN includes climatologists and hydrologists from North and South America who will participate in the social impact assessments proposed in Activity 1; and

- Network for the Investigation and Environmental Management of the la Plata Basin (RIGA), comprised of institutions and professionals in the fields of environmental monitoring, planning, evaluation and investigation of water resources and promoting technical development, management and education in the la Plata Basin, has participated in the development of an Early Warning and Environmental Quality System financed by the IDB—RIGA also is the executing organisation for the FEMCIDI-OAS, dedicated to analysing and resolving issues associated with the sustainable use of water resources in the western hemisphere (RIGA developed the discussion document for the Fourth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Resources Management that initiated this GEF project process).

4.2 Costs

69. In the Chart 1 (synthesis) and in the **Annex VII**, the costs of the preparation of the project are presented by financing source, identifying the requested contributions to the PDF, Block B, process from the GEF, other agencies, and national sources.

CHART 1. COST TABLE

ACTIVITY	COST (In thousands of US $)			
	National[6]	*GEF*	Other Agencies	TOTAL
1. Strengthening Institutional Arrangements for the Integrated Management of the Basin, and Arrangements for the Preparation of the Project	337.8	240.7	16—AAAS[7] 55—FONPLATA 35—UNEP 35—OAS	719.5
2. Predicting the Impacts of Climatic Variability and Change on the Hydrology of the la Plata Basin	26.3	150.5		176.8
3. Development of a Common Vision of the la Plata Basin and Formulation of the TDA	30.1	147.1	50—WMO	227.2
4. Identification of Pilot Demonstration Projects for the Management of Critical Areas and Topics	26.4	27.0	100—FONPLATA	153.4

[6] Costs calculated based upon support from the countries to the CIC and earmarked for support of the preparation of the project through personnel, infrastructure, and equipment, including institutional representation.
[7] AAAS, for Digital Mapping, including the FONPLATA contribution.

ACTIVITY	COST (In thousands of US $)			
	National[8]	*GEF*	Other Agencies	TOTAL
5. Elaboration of a Framework Strategic Action Program (FSAP) for the Integrated Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin	47.2	134.7	50—WMO[8]	231.9
TOTAL US $	467.8	700.0	155—FONPLATA 100—WMO 16—AAAS 35—UNEP 35—OAS	1,326.1
GRAND TOTAL US$	467.8	700.0	341.0	1,508.8

4.3 Time Line

70. The preparation phase of the project will have a duration of 18 months. Activities have been programmed as indicated in the **Annex X**.

4.4 Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

71. UNEP, as the GEF Implementing Agency and in co-operation with the OAS as Executing Agency, will ensure that the project conforms to GEF requirements relative to reporting and financial management. In addition, UNEP, the OAS, and the CIC, through the Steering Committee structure, will ensure that the project addresses the GEF-IW monitoring and evaluation indicators. Utilising key process and status indicators will be an intrinsic part of the entire project. These indicators will be implemented through the establishment and integration of monitoring tools into project components, as agreed by the Steering Committee. The objective of this monitoring is to contribute to improving, and, if needed, adapting management of work program activities as well as creating the basis for project evaluation. Implementing Agency supervision will be exercised through the Executing Agency and by participation in the regular meetings of the Steering Committee, wherein the work plan and terms of reference for project staff and consultants will be discussed and agreed. A project implementation review would be undertaken jointly by the governments of the five countries and UNEP-OAS within one year after the end of the project.

72. During the PDF-B, a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan taking into account the new required GEF-IW indicators as well as looking at output and outcome indicators will be prepared. This M&E plan will serve as the basis for the entire phased approach ensuring periodic project M&E using appropriate indicators to track progress throughout the life of the project. All indicators will be quantified with numerical targets including timeframe. Means of verification will also be outlined.

SECTION 5 - WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE, BUDGET, FOLLOW-UP

5.1 Work Plan and Timetable:

73. Refer to Section 4.3 above & **Annex X**.

[8] WMO, for technical cooperation with the CIC

5.2 Budget:

74. A detailed budget in UNEP format is presented in **Annex XIII**. This budget is based upon the GEF approved budget provided in GEF format in the GEF Medium sized project brief.

5.3 Follow-up:

75. Completion of these project development activities within 18 months will allow the five Basin countries, within the framework of the CIC as local executing agency, to define the parameters, establish terms of reference, and determine the components and activities to be included in the GEF project Phase I. The outcome of the activities set forth below will be the preparation of a project document (Project Brief) for a first full size project.

SECTION 6 - INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND EVALUATION

6.1 Institutional Framework

76. GS/OAS will be responsible for the implementation of the project in accordance with the objectives and activities outlined in Section 3 of this document. UNEP as the GEF Implementing Agency will be responsible for overall project supervision to ensure consistency with GEF and UNEP policies and procedures, and will provide guidance on linkages with related UNEP and GEF-funded activities. The UNEP DGEF Co-ordination will monitor implementation of the activities undertaken during the execution of the project and will be responsible for clearance and transmission of financial and progress reports to the Global Environment Facility. UNEP retains responsibility for review and approval of the substantive and technical reports produced in accordance with the schedule of work.

77. All correspondence regarding **substantive and technical matters** should be addressed to:

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At UNEP

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78. All correspondence regarding **administrative and financial matters** should be addressed to:

At UNEP

Mr. Sergey Kurdjukov
Officer-in-Charge,
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P.O. Box 30552
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At GS/OAS:

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With copy to

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Email: bsantos@oas.org

6.2 Evaluation

79. Upon completion of the project, UNEP will organize an independent evaluation of the project to measure the degree to which the objectives of the project have been achieved.

6.3 Eligibility

80. The countries are eligible for GEF funding under the rules and requirements specified in the *Instrument for the Restructured Global Environment Facility*. Given that the project has potential for replication of lessons learned at a global level, country and regional ownership will be ensured from the onset of implementation of the medium sized project by fully involving other key national and regional developing country agencies and governments in the implementation process. In addition, activities will include the development of an information dissemination and public awareness raising strategy that will help ensure that results from the project are integrated into national and regional planning processes.

SECTION 7: MONITORING AND REPORTING

7.1 Management Reports

7.1.1 Progress Reports

81. Within 30 days of the end of reporting period, GS/OAS will submit to UNEP/DGEF Coordination, using the format given in **Annex XIV**, Half Yearly Progress Reports as at 31 December 2003, 30 June 2004 and 31 December 2004.

7.1.2 Terminal Report

82. Within 60 days of the completion of the project, GS/OAS will submit to UNEP/DGEF Coordination a Terminal Report detailing the activities taken under the project, lessons learned and any recommendations to improve the efficiency of similar activities in the future, using the format provided in **Annex XV**.

7.1.3 Substantive Reports

83. At the appropriate time, GS/OAS will submit to UNEP electronic copies in draft of any substantive project report(s) and, at the same time, inform UNEP of its plans for publication of that text. Within 30 days of receipt, UNEP will give GS/OAS substantive clearance of the manuscript, indicating any suggestions for change and such wording (recognition, disclaimer, etc.) as it would wish to see figure in the preliminary pages or in the introductory texts.

84. It will equally consider the publishing proposal of GS/OAS and will make comments thereon as advisable.

85. It may request GS/OAS to consider a joint imprint basis. Should GS/OAS be solely responsible for publishing arrangements, UNEP will nevertheless receive a minimum of 100 free copies of the published work in both English and Spanish, for its own purposes and dissemination to GEF Secretariat.

7.2 Financial Reports

(i) Details of expenditures will be reported on an activity by activity basis, in line with project budget codes as set out in the project document, as at 31 December 2003, 31 March 2004, 30 June 2004, 30 September 2004 and 31 December 2004 using the formats given in **Annex XVI A, Annex XVI B** and **Annex XVI C**. All expenditure accounts will be dispatched to UNEP within 30 days of the end of the three-month period to which they refer, certified by a duly authorized official of GS/OAS.

- In addition, the total expenditures incurred during the year ending 31 December, certified by a duly authorized official, should be reported in an opinion by a recognized firm of public accountants, and should be dispatched to UNEP no later than 30 August of the following year.

(ii) Within 90 days of the completion of the project, GS/OAS will supply UNEP with a final statement of account in the format as for the quarterly expenditure statements duly signed by authorized official of GS/OAS and certified by recognized firm of public accountants.

(iii) If requested, GS/OAS shall facilitate an audit by the United Nations Board of Auditors and/or the Audit Service of the accounts of the project. The costs of such audit shall be borne by UNEP.

(iv) Any portion of cash advances remaining unspent or uncommitted by GS/OAS on completion of the project will be reimbursed to UNEP within one month of the presentation of the final statement of accounts. In the event that there is any delay in such disbursement, GS/OAS will be financially responsible for any adverse movement in the exchange rates.

(v) Interests accrued on cash remitted to GS/OAS should be reported as part of cash advance accounts (see format in **Annex XVIII**). Once re-programmed, the amount of interests generated will be credited to the project and the GS/OAS will be notified officially of the project budget revision. A proposal for the re-programming of the funds will be prepared by GS/OAS in close consultation with UNEP for endorsement at the next Steering Committee meeting.

7.3 Co-financing Reporting

86. A report on co-financing will be completed as of 31 December of each year using the format given in **Annex XIX**.

7.3.1 Non-Expendable Equipment

87. GS/OAS will maintain records of non-expendable equipment (items costing US$1500 or more as well as items of attraction such as pocket calculators, cameras, computers, printers, etc.) purchased with UNEP funds (or with Trust Funds or Counter funds administered by UNEP) and will submit, using format in **Annex XVII**, an inventory of such equipment to

UNEP, once a year, indicating description, serial no., date of purchase, original cost, present condition, location of each item attached to the progress report submitted on 31 December. Within 60 days of completion of the project, GS/OAS will submit to UNEP a final inventory of all non-expendable equipment purchased under this project indicating description, serial number, original cost, present condition, location and a proposal for the disposal of the said equipment. Non-expendable equipment purchased with funds administered by UNEP remains the property of UNEP until its disposal is authorized by UNEP, in consultation with GS/OAS. GS/OAS shall be responsible for any loss or damage caused by GS/OAS to equipment purchased with UNEP administered funds. The proceeds from the sale of equipment, (duly authorized by UNEP) shall be credited to the accounts of UNEP, or of the appropriate trust fund or counterpart funds. A duly authorized official of GS/OAS should physically verify the inventory.

7.4 Terms and Conditions

7.4.2 Responsibility for Cost Overruns

88. Any cost overruns (expenditures in excess of the amount in each budget sub-line) shall be met by the organization responsible for authorizing the expenditure, unless written agreement has been received in advance from UNEP. In cases where UNEP has indicated its agreement to a cost overrun in a budget sub-line to another, or to increase the total cost to UNEP, a revision to the project document amending the budget will be issued by UNEP.

7.4.3 Cash Advance Requirements

89. Initial cash advance of US$ 232,000 will be made upon signature of the project document by both parties and will cover expenditures expected to be incurred by GS/OAS during the first three months of the project implementation.

90. Subsequent advances are to be made biannually, subject to:

(i) Confirmation by GS/OAS, at least two weeks before the payment is due, that the expected rate of expenditure and actual cash position necessitate the payment, including a reasonable amount to cover "lead time" for the next remittance; and

(ii) The presentation of:

- A satisfactory financial report showing expenditures incurred for the past quarter, under each project activity.
- Timely and satisfactory reports on project implementation

91. Requests for subsequent cash advances should be made using the standard format provided in **Annex XVIII.**

7.4.4 Claims by Third Parties against UNEP

92. GS/OAS shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against UNEP and its staff, in relation to work executed by GS/OAS under this Agreement and UNEP shall not be liable to GS/OAS in relations to those claims unless those claims were caused by the negligence or other conduct of UNEP or UNEP's staff. Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as a waiver of the immunities from suit, legal process, execution, of either UNEP or GS/OAS.

7.4.5 Amendments

93. The Parties to this project document shall approve any modification or changes to this project document in writing, in consultation with UNEP.

7.4.6 Disputes resolution provision

94. Any controversy or claim arising out of, or in accordance with this Agreement or any breach thereof, shall, unless it is settled by direct negotiations, be settled in accordance with the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules as at present in force.

95. The parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of any such controversy or claim.

7.4.7 Termination

96. Either party may terminate this Agreement with sixty days' advanced written notice to the other. In the event of such termination, each party shall provide the corresponding funding in accordance with its obligations herein to cover any project costs up until the termination date, including, but not limited to, the costs of complying with third-party commitments made pursuant to the project that may run beyond the termination date and which cannot be revoked without incurring liability.

ANNEXES:

I. Profiles of GEF International Waters projects in the La Plata Basin;
II. Characteristics of the La Plata Basin;
III. Source Documents used in the Preparation of the PDF Block B Document;
IV. Program of Action of the CIC;
V. Proposed Project Components and Work Program by Activity;
VI. Digital Mapping Project of AAAS;
VII. Organizational Structure Proposed for the Preparation of the Project;
VIII. Costs and Detailed Financing for the Preparation of the Project: Cost Table;
IX. GEF Focal Point Endorsement letters – Financial Endorsement Letters;
X. Detailed Chronogram for the Preparation of the Project Phase I (PDF-B);
XI World Bank's Comments to UNEP;
XII GEF Secretariat Comments and Response;
XIII. Detailed Budget in UNEP format;
XIV A Format of Quarterly Operational Report
XIV B Format of Half Yearly Progress Report with the Appended Inventory of Services and Outputs;
XV. Format for the Terminal Report;
XVI A Format for the Quarterly Expenditure Statement for year 2003;
XVI B Format for the Quarterly Expenditure Statement for year 2004;
XVI C Format for the Quarterly Expenditure Statement for year 2005;
XVII. Format for the Non-Expendable Equipment Inventory List;
XVIII. Format for Cash Advance Request; and
XIX Format for Report on Co-Financing.

ACRONYMS USED:

AAAS	American Association for the Advancement of Science;
CIC	Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee of the la Plata Basin;
CIH	Intergovernmental Committee for the Hidrovía Paraná-Paraguay;
CLIVAR	Climate Variability and Predictability Program of the World Climate Research Programme;
FONPLATA	Financial Fund for the Development of the la Plata Basin;
FSAP	Framework Strategic Action Program for the la Plata Basin;
GEF	Global Environment Facility;
GEF-IW	Global Environment Facility, International Waters focal area;
GS/OAS	General Secretariat of the Organization of the American States;
IA	GEF Implementing Agency;
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation;
NPU	National Project Units;
PLATIN	Plata Basin Network component of CLIVAR/VAMOS;
RIGA	Network for the Investigation and Environmental Management for the la Plata Basin;
TDA	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis;
PU-CIC	Technical Project Unit of the CIC;
UDSMA	Unit for Sustainable Development and Environment;
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme;
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme;
VAMOS	Variability of the American Monsoon Systems program of CLIVAR
WB	The World Bank;
WCRP	World Climate Research Programme, jointly sponsored by WMO, the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC);
WMO	World Meteorological Organization; and
WMP	Watershed Management Programme

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATION FACILITY (PDF)
BLOCK B GRANT

Countries:	Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay, and Uruguay
Project Title:	**A Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with Respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change.**
Focal Area: **(Cross-cutting Areas:**	International Waters OP # 9 Land Degradation, Climate Change, and Biodiversity)
Requesting Agency:	UNEP
Local Executing Agency:	Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee (CIC) for the la Plata Basin, in co-operation with the following national institutions: **Argentina:** Ministerio de Infraestructura y Vivienda, Subsecretaria de Recursos Hidricos de la Nacion; **Bolivia:** Viceministerio del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Direccion General de Clasificacion de Tierras y Cuencas; **Brazil:** Ministério do Meio Ambiente, Secretaria de Recursos Hídricos; **Paraguay:** Secretaría del Ambiente (SEAM), Dirección General de Proteccion y Conservacion de Recursos Hídricos; **Uruguay:** Ministerio de Transportes y Obras Públicas (MTOP), Dirección Nacional de Hidrografia (DNH).
Executing Agency:	General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS)
Total Project Cost:	To be defined during the PDF-B: estimated to be between **US$30-38 million**, comprised of GEF-IW funding in the amount of US$12-15 million and counterpart funding of US$5-6 million from the five Basin countries, US$8-11 million from FONPLATA, and US$5-6 million from other partners, including AAAS, WMO, UNEP, OAS, and others.

1.	Total Preparation Costs:		US$1,558,800.00
	PDF-B Funding:		
1.1	PDFB GEF funding:		US$700,000.00
1.2	PDF-B Co-financing total funding		US$808,800.00
	- Countries through CIC	US$467,800.00	
	- Non-reimbursable co-operation funds from FONPLATA	US$155,000.00	
	- WMO	US$100,000.00	
	- AAAS	US$16,000.00	
	- UNEP	US$35,000.00	
	- OAS	US$35,000.00	
	PDF-A Funding: (duration 18 months)		
1.3	PDF-A GEF funding:		US$25,000.00
1.4	PDF-A Co-financing total funding		US$25,000.00
	- OAS (cash & in-kind)	US$15,000.00	
	- UNEP (in-kind)	US$5,000.00	
	- Brazil (in-kind)	US$5,000.00	

ANNEX I

PROFILES OF GEF INTERNATIONAL WATERS PROJECTS IN THE LA PLATA BASIN

1. **GF/1100-97-07: Strategic Action Program for the Binational Basin of the Bermejo River.** This project is executed by the Governments of Argentina and Bolivia, through the Binational Commission for the Development of the Bermejo and Grande Tarija River Basin, with the support of the OAS/UDSMA as executing agency at the regional level, and UNEP, as the GEF implementing agency. Begun in 1996, the Bermejo is the first international waters projects financed by the GEF in Latin America, and the first at the global level to reach the implementation stage. It has as its objective the mitigation and control of environmental problems that affect the basin, particularly erosion and sedimentation, and the promotion of sustainable development in the region. The Bermejo River generates approximately 80 percent of the annual sediment load to the la Plata River estuary.

The Strategic Action Program, elaborated during 1997-2000, is a long-term initiative made up of 136 projects within four major areas: i) Institutional Development and Strengthening; ii) Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation; iii) Sustainable Development of Natural Resources; and iv) Information, Education, and Public Participation, including Replication of successful pilot demonstration projects. The total investments foreseen in the long term program amount to about US $ 470 million, to be executed over a 20-year period. Both Governments are seeking to resolve the most pressing environmental problems of the Basin by catalysing the implementation of this program. To this end, short-term projects and initiatives of immediate priority, totaling US $ 11.04 million, are being executed during the period 2001-2005 with the financial assistance of the GEF. The work program includes a component for the dissemination and replication of the results and experiences throughout the la Plata Basin, complementing the present initiative.

2. **GF/1100-99-16: Implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management Program in the Upper Paraguay River Basin and Pantanal.** The project has the object of implementing a program of strategic actions for the integrated management of the Upper Paraguay River Basin and the important Pantanal wetland in Brazil, through the strengthening of the institutions in charge of water resources management in the Basin, the production and dissemination of information on the Basin, and the practical implementation of sustainable production and environmental recovery programs in the region. The project is executed by the National Water Agency (ANA) of the Brazil, with the support of the OAS as regional executing agency, and UNEP as implementing agency of the GEF. It has the financial support of the GEF in the amount of US $ 6.6 million, with a total project cost of US $ 16 million, and is being executed during the period 2000-2003. The project includes the convening of a trinational meeting, proposed for mid-to late- 2003, between Bolivia, Brasil, and Paraguay, at the invitation of Brasil, to consider the transboundary problems of this major sub-basin and the extension of the project results throughout the Upper Paraguay River Basin. Enhancing water resources management within the Upper Paraguay River Basin contributes to the protection of the headwaters of the la Plata Basin hydrologic system.

3. **RLA/99/G31/A/1G/99: Environmental Protection of the la Plata River and Its Marine Front:** Prevention and Control of Contamination and Restoration of Habitat. This project began during November of 1999 with financing in the amount of US $ 5.7 million from the GEF; the total project cost is US $ 8.1 million, with other funding being provided by Argentina and Uruguay, international cooperation agencies from Canada, France, and Germany and the IDB. The objective of this project is the preparation of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and a Strategic Action Plan for the la Plata estuary. The GEF implementing agency is the UNDP, acting in support of the Binational Commission of the River of the la Plata and its Maritime Front. The Maritime Front includes the la Plata River estuary to its confluence with the Southwest Atlantic Large Marine Ecosystem (LME), and encompasses critical habitat areas for marine, estuarine, and freshwaters fishes and birds. The Maritime Front also forms an important navigational corridor for marine transportation, including points of transshipment of goods to and from throughout the la Plata Basin by river, rail and road. This is the end point of the la Plata Basin hydrologic system.

4. **P068121: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Guarani Aquifer System.** This project is the first one financed by the GEF to assist to the protection of one of the world's largest aquifers. The Guarani Aquifer has a transboundary character, and extends over 1,282,000 km^2 through Argentina, Brasil, Paraguay, and Uruguay inside the Paraná geologic basin. The project has completed a preparatory phase using PDF, Block B, funding and project financing has been approved by the four countries. The World Bank is the GEF implementing agency. The OAS is executing agency for the project in the countries. The project cost is US $ 26.76 million, of which US $ 13.4 million is financed by the GEF with the balance being contributed by the countries, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the German Geological Survey (BGR) and the Government of The Netherlands. The project will enhance the scientific knowledge and technical capacity of agency staff, carry out monitoring, and agree a coordinated management framework in the international environment. The results of the project will include a Strategic Action Programme based upon a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis. The project began execution during the last trimester of 2002. The Guarani Aquifer is economically important as a major goundwater source within the la Plata Basin, and hydrologically important both as a water resource and as the groundwater component of the la Plata River system.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LA PLATA BASIN

The la Plata River is one of the great rivers of the world. Draining approximately one-fifth of the South American continent, extending over some 3.1 million km^2, and conveying waters from central portions of the continent to the southwest Atlantic Ocean,[1] the la Plata River system rivals the better-known Amazon River system in terms of its biological and habitat diversity, and far exceeds that system in economic importance to southern and central South America. The la Plata Basin includes almost all the southern part of Brazil, the south-east of Bolivia, a large part of Uruguay, the whole of Paraguay, and an extensive part of northern Argentina. It accounts for 17 percent of the surface area of the South American continent. The Basin is comprised of three large river systems; namely, the Paraná River, the Paraguay River, and the Uruguay River. Each of these waterways has unique characteristics that reflect the source waters of the rivers and the human influences that define their flow patterns and environmental status. Map 1 shows the location of the la Plata River Basin and its component drainage systems. In addition, water that infiltrates into the groundwater system from within the Basin provides recharge for the Guarani Aquifer, one of the largest continental groundwater reservoirs in the world.

In terms of discharge, the **Paraná River** is the most important in the Basin, with a mean annual flow of about 17,700 m^3s^{-1}. The Upper Paraná River lies wholly within Brasil, but, further downstream, the River forms the frontier between Brasil and Paraguay, and, later, between Argentina and Paraguay. After it joins the Paraguay River, the Paraná River remains within Argentine territory until it meets the la Plata River. Measured along its principal tributary, the Paranaíba River, the length of the Paraná River is 3,740 km. Its width is highly variable, ranging from 150 m in the headwaters to 2.5 km near the City of Pousadas in Argentina. West of this City, the Paraná River channel is divided by a series of islands, passing through a reach with very low gradients between its confluence with the Paraguay River and its confluence with the la Plata River. Within this stretch of river, lying wholly within Argentina, the width varies from between 4.2 km near Corrientes and 2.0 km near Rosário. The Paraná River floodplain is much wider than the river channel, extending to 13 km at Corrientes and to 56 km at Rosário-Victória.

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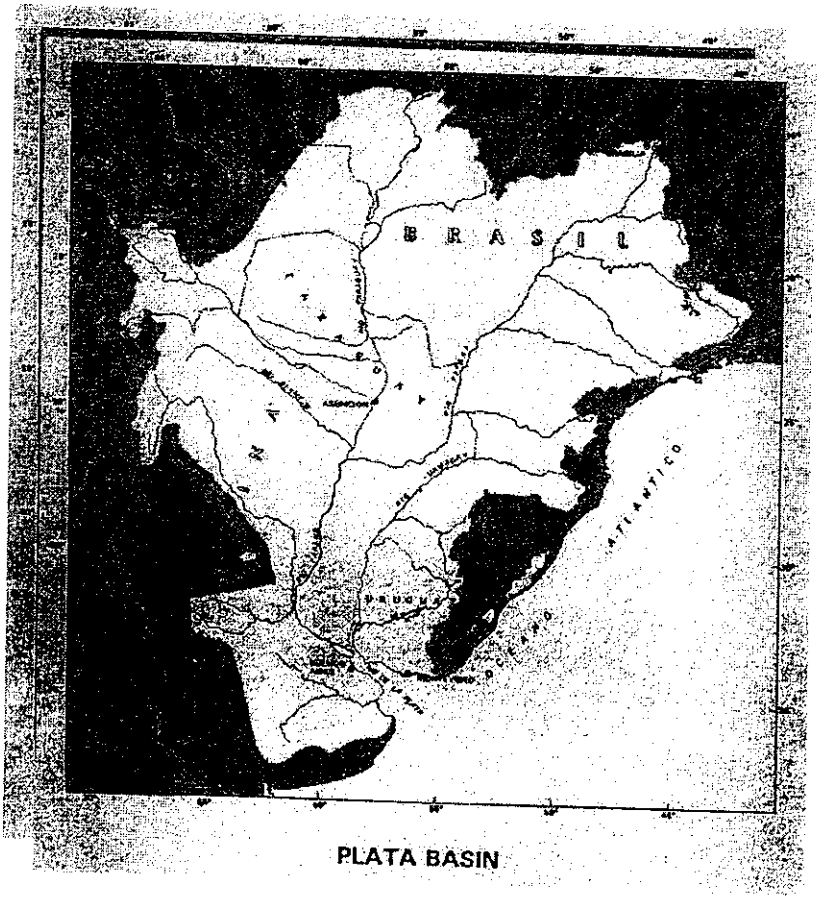
[1] The la Plata River system is comprised of the 1.5 million km^2 Parana River Basin, the 1.1 million km^2 Paraguay River Basin, and the 0.4 million km^2 Uruguay River Basin; the la Plata River Basin proper drains a further 0.1 million km^2 basin. The la Plata River Basin extends over 1.4 million km^2 of Brasil, 0.9 million km^2 of Argentina, 0.4 million km^2 of Paraguay, 0.2 million km^2 of Bolivia, and 0.2 million km^2 of Uruguay. The Paraguay River extends some 2,500 km from its origins in the Brasilian Chapada de Paresis to its confluence in Argentina with the Parana River. The Parana River flows about 3,750 km from the Southeast of Brasil to the la Plata Delta. The Uruguay River 1,600 km from the Southeast of Brasil to the la Plata Estuary. Thirty-one large dams, and fifty-seven large cities with populations in excess of 100,000 persons, including the capital cities of Brasil, Paraguay, Argentina, and Uruguay, are to be found within this Basin. The human population of the Basin is estimated to be approximately 67 million individuals.

The **Paraguay River** is formed by the junction of two rivers, the Santa Ana and the Diamantino. Together with other tributaries, this River feeds the Pantanal, a wetland of global concern, which extends over 700 km in length within the Upper Paraguay River Basin. Downstream of the Pantanal, the Paraguay River receives flows from the Pilcomayo and Bermejo Rivers. About one-third of the Paraguay River sub-basin is within the territory of Brasil, one-third is within Paraguay, and the balance is shared about equally between Argentina and Bolivia (see Table 1). Except for the Pilcomayo and Bermejo Rivers, which descend in steep-sided valleys from the Bolivian antiplano to the plains of the Gran Chaco, and with the further exception of a portion of the left bank of the Paraguay River between the River Apa and the junction with the Paraná River, the Paraguay River Sub-basin is an immense alluvial plain with very low gradients and subject to extensive seasonal flooding. Mean annual flow is about 2,700 m^3s^{-1}.



PLATA BASIN

The **Uruguay River** rises in Brasil, where it is formed by the junction of the Pelotas and Canoas Rivers; farther downstream it is joined on its left bank by the Ibicui and Negro tributaries. The Negro is the larger, joining the Uruguay River not far from the la Plata estuary. After its confluence with the Negro, the Uruguay River becomes wider, effectively forming an extension of the la Plata River. Its mean annual flow is about 5,500 m^3s^{-1}.

The Paraná River delta extends through a region shared by the Argentine Provinces of Buenos Aires and Entre Rios. At this point, its width varies from about 18 km to more than 60 km, and its area exceeds 14,000 km^2. The delta is formed by the enormous volumes of sediment transported from the Paraguay River to the Paraná River, primarily

via tributaries like the Bermejo River, and by the hydrological effects of the Uruguay River and tidal influences in the la Plata estuary. The delta has five main channels and numerous islands, many of which are totally submerged when water levels are high; high discharges from the Paraná and Uruguay Rivers, associated with high tides in the la Plata estuary, contribute to severe flooding problems within the delta region.

The **la Plata estuary** extends for 250 km from the Paraná River delta to its debouchement into the southwest Atlantic Ocean Large Marine Ecosystem (LME). This debouchement is defined by a line between a point near Punta del Este in Uruguay to a point near Punta Rasa in Argentina. The estuary is shared between Argentina and Uruguay. Numerous ports, the most important of which are Buenos Aires, Montevideo and la Plata, are located along the shoreline of the estuary.

The drainage areas of the three major subbasins—the Paraguay, Paraná, and Uruguay—are tabulated in Table 1. Their principal reaches, water resource characteristics, and environmental significance are summarized in Table 2.

Table 1: Approximate division of areas of the three Sub-basins of the Rivers Paraná, Paraguay and Uruguay, between the countries Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

	Area (km^2):			
	Paraná:	Paraguay:	Uruguay:	Total for country:
Argentina:	565.000 (37.5%)	165.000 (15.0%)	60.000 (16.4%)	920.000(**) (29.7%)
Bolivia:	*	205.000 (18.7%)	*	205.000 (6.6%)
Brazil	890.000 (59.0%)	370.000 (33.9%)	155.000 (42.5%)	1 415.000 (45.7%)
Paraguay:	55.000 (3.5%)	355.000 (32.4%)	*	410.000 (13.2%)
Uruguay:	*	*	150.000 (41.1%)	150.000 (4.8%)
Total Sub-basin area:	1 510.000	1 095.000	365.000	3 100.000
% of la Plata Basin:	(48.7%)	(35.3%)	(11.8%)	(100%)

** Areas in this line do not include the area of the la Plata estuary, 130.000 km^2, divided between Argentina and Uruguay.

Table 2: River reaches in the la Plata Basin, water-resource and environmental characteristics, and levels of development.

Reaches	River	Countries	Water resource and environmental characteristics	Development
Planalto	Paraguay	Brazil	Rainfall 1300mm to 2000 mm; high specific flows; high sediment production	Mining; one of the biggest cattle herds in the world; soy bean production.
Pantanal	Paraguay	Brazil and Bolivia	High water retention; greatest wetland in the world; rainfall less than potential evaporation. System is maintained from upstream inflows.	Cattle herds; ecological tourism; navigation; Low urban densities; environmental conservation and adaptation to flooding.
Southeastern Brazil	Paraná	Brazil	Rainfall about 1500mm with high specific flows; hydraulic drops; significant deforestation in second half of last century.	Many hydroelectric installations; large urban conurbations (S. Paulo, Curitiba);sediment production; soy bean production; flooding of river bank areas.
Internal Paraguay	Paraguay	Paraguay	Low discharges due to control by the Pantanal and low gradient; extensive flooded areas.	River navigable for international traffic; extensive flooded areas.
Paraguay international	Paraguay	Paraguay and Argentina	Contributing basins with high sediment production and unstable beds; rainfall less than 800 mm	Sparsely populated areas; river navigation; sediment deposition and flooding.
Paraná international	Paraná	Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay	Important changes in bed level; high sediment production and rapid flows.	International hydroelectric installations; navigation.
Argentine Paraná	Paraná	Argentina	Extensive flooded areas during much of the year; low rainfall in tributary basins.	International river navigation.
Upper Uruguay	Uruguay	Brazil	Rainfall from 1500 to 1800 mm; high mean flows; hydraulic drops.	Agricultural production; flooding; high potential for hydropower generation.
Middle Uruguay	Uruguay	Brazil and Argentina	Rainfall about 1500 mm; high mean flows; hydraulic drops; high sediment production.	Hydropower plants; agricultural production; flooding.
Lower Uruguay	Uruguay	Uruguay and Argentina	High rainfall and discharges.	Salto Grande hydropower plant in the middle reach; navigation in the lower reach.
Plata	Plata	Uruguay and Argentina	Tidal effects combine with la Plata flows.	River and maritime navigation predominant.

In a recently published review,[2] the World Resources Institute names the la Plata River system as being among those watersheds of the world having the highest numbers of endemic fishes (in the Paraguay River subbasin), the highest numbers of endemic bird areas (the Parana River subbasin), and the highest number of major dams (the Parana River subbasin). The diversity of fishes and birdlife illustrates the diversity of landforms within the la Plata River Basin. Arising on the eastern slopes of the Andes Mountain, at altitudes above 4,000 m, the Paraguay River subbasin extends across the vast expanse of the central plains of South America, including the diverse Chaco ecosystem and globally significant Pantanal wetlands. The South American *Chapada de Parecis* and *Planalto*, or highlands with elevations of about 500 m that separate the la Plata Basin from the Amazon Basin, form the headwaters of the Parana River and Uruguay River subbasins which rise in the east.

Rainfall within the subbasins varies from less than 100 mm per year in the west to more than 4,000 mm per year in the Brasilian coastal ranges in the east. Rainfall is seasonal, and varies with location within the Basin and altitude. In the northern portions of the la Plata River Basin, rainfall regimes are essentially tropical, with rainfall confined to an approximately three-month period during summer (December-January). In the southern portions of the Basin, rainfall is more evenly distributed through the year. The coefficient of variation in rainfall is between 10 and 25 percent.

Mean annual temperatures within the Basin also vary from less than 10°C in the southern and western portions of the Basin to greater than 30°C in the northern portions of the Basin. Annual variations in mean annual temperature at sites within the Basin range from about 7.5°C to 15°C. The absolute range in temperatures between maxima and minima can exceed 50°C, ranging from lows of less than - 10°C in the southern portions of the Basin and at high elevations, to highs of greater than 40°C in the northern portions of the Basin and at lower elevations. As a consequence, evaporation rates are high, ranging from between 600 and 800 mm per year in the extreme eastern portions of the Basin to between 1,400 and 2,000 mm in the remainder the Basin. The highest rates of evaporation occur in the northwestern portions of the basin where annual evaporation can exceed 2,000 mm per year. Portions of the Basin are considered semi-arid, although much of the Basin varies from tropical in the north to subtropical in the central portions of the Basin.

The climatic variability inherent in the indicators summarized above is reflected in the mean annual runoff rates reported for the various tributaries of the la Plata River system.[3] Flows ranged from about 1 m^3 per second in small tributary streams with watersheds of about 100 km^2 to upwards of 1,000 m^3 per second in larger tributary streams with watersheds of about 50,000 km^2. River flows along the main stems of the primary tributaries approached 15,000 m^3 per second in the Paraguay-Parana River with a watershed area of about 2.3 million km^2, and 5,000 m^3 per second in the Uruguay

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[2] Revenga, C., S. Murray, J. Abramovitz, and A. Hammond, *Watersheds of the World: Ecological Value and Vulnerability*, World Resources Institute and Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC, 1998, 205 pp.

[3] *Cuenca del Rio del la Plata: Estudio para su Planificacion y Desarrollo, Inventario de Datos Hidrologicos y Climatologicos*, Secretaria General de la Organizacion de los Estados Americanos, Washington, DC: 1969, 272 pp.

River with a watershed area of about 0.25 million km^2. Comparable data on groundwater flow rates are lacking, although the water infiltrating into the Guarani Aquifer from within this surface drainage basin forms the major source of recharge for this Aquifer.

Hydrological records show evidence of increases both in rainfall and runoff in the la Plata Basin after 1970. Among other consequences, these variations in rainfall and runoff have important consequences for the Pantanal (the largest wetland in the world, whose area can extend to 140,000 km^2), and for the Paraná River. Comparison of the mean annual flows in the Paraná River and its tributaries before and after 1970 shows evidence of increases ranging from 19 percent to 46 percent. By contrast, mean annual flows in the Upper Paraguay River during the decade between 1960 and 1970 were unusually low; areas formerly subject to seasonal flooding came into use for cattle ranching, but had to be abandoned when water levels rose again after 1970.

The history of the Paraná River shows many occurrences of drought followed by floods. Recent research has detected a fluctuation with period about ten years, less than the period of 15 years described by Charles Darwin in 1834, suggesting the possibility that fluctuations may have become more frequent. Certainly much more needs to be known about factors causing these fluctuations; for example the rainfall in sub-tropical Argentina appears to fluctuate with approximate period between 7 and 10 years, suggesting the possibility of predicting it some years in advance. In addition, some climate studies of the Basin show evidence that streamflows are correlated with el Niño events.

Besides fluctuations in climate, there is also some evidence of trends in climate. Over a large part of the la Plata Basin, annual minimum temperatures are increasing by about one degree per century; in some parts, there is evidence of trends in monthly and annual rainfall. And besides the marked increase in rainfall in the second half of the 1970s, trends in the period before the 1960s have also been detected.

The human settlement patterns and economic import of the la Plata River Basin make the la Plata River system of significant importance to the health and well-being of the peoples of South America. The three river systems comprising the la Plata River drainage system drain waters arising within the national boundaries of Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay, Argentina, and Uruguay. The national capitals of Brasil, Paraguay, Argentina, and Uruguay all lie within the boundaries of the la Plata River Basin. Thus, the waterways of the la Plata River drainage system are of considerable importance to the region and continent as a whole. The waters of the la Plata River system provide an important economic and transportation artery linking the five Basin countries, and form a continuum across which the full range of the human condition is displayed. Population density averages about 24 persons per km^2, but vary widely across the Basin, with the majority of the population concentrated in the non-mountainous areas of eastern Argentina, Brasil, and Uruguay. Paraguay, and the mountainous areas of Bolivia, have much lower population densities, reported to be about 6 to 7 persons per km^2.

The population in the la Plata Basin is highly concentrated in cities. The State of São Paulo, Brasil, for example, has a population of 36 million, of which about 92 percent lives in urbanized areas. The total population of the Basin has grown from 61 million in 1968 to 116 million in 1994, with the greater part concentrated in small or medium-

sized towns that lack basic social and economic infrastructure. These urban concentrations need water for domestic use, while incomplete treatment of urban wastewater affects both water quantity and water quality in the Basin. In addition, poor people from rural areas are attracted to the urban centers by the possibility of a better life in cities, only to find that there is nowhere to live except along river margins. Thus, the likelihood of flooding and public health degradation is increased. Further, damage to water resources and risks to human populations can also result from industrial wastewater and toxic spills in intensively industrialized areas.

Within the Basin, the per capita Gross National Product (GNP[4]) of the five countries ranges from about US $ 8,000 in Argentina to less than US $ 1,000 in Bolivia:[5] Brasil has a per capita GNP of about US $ 4,000, Paraguay of about US $ 2,000, and Uruguay of about US $ 5,000. About 60 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the five countries is generated from within this drainage area. As may be expected from the foregoing, the relative levels of industrialization vary among the countries. For example, the economies of Uruguay and Argentina are dominated by the production of industrial goods and services, while the economy of Bolivia remains more broadly based with agricultural production, the production of industrial goods, and services being more equally distributed across the board. In other words, the greater the degree of industrialization and development of service industries, the higher the reported GNP.

Severe flooding, with loss of life and extensive damage to infrastructure and economic production, is a frequent occurrence, especially in the Paraná and Uruguay Sub-basins. The Paraná River and its tributaries—including the Iguaçu River, for example—have many riverside towns that are frequently flooded, especially since 1970. Along the international reaches, the Argentine cities of Resistencia, Corrientes, Rosário, and Santa Fé suffer severely from flooding. At just one site on the Iguaçu River tributary of the Paraná River, damage due to flooding in the decade between 1983 and 1993 has been estimated at more than US $ 110 million. Similar damage is incurred in cities of the Uruguay River basin, principally in downstream reaches affecting the town of São Borja, Itaquí, and Uruguaiana, as well as towns along the Alegrete tributary. During the el Niño event of 1983 and 1984, more than 40.000 people were affected in more than 70 towns along the reach of the Uruguay River within the Brasilian State of Rio Grande do Sul; and in the la Plata Basin as a whole, losses associated with this el Niño event were estimated to amount to more than US $ 1 billion. In the middle reaches of the Paraná River, the four largest discharges on record followed the four el Niño events of 1883, 1904, 1992 and 1998.

Deforestation and intensive agriculture, as well as urbanization, in the Paraguay, Paraná and Uruguay River basins from the 1960s onwards, particularly in Brasil, is likely to have contributed to the increased runoff and degradation of water quality in the Basin. Deforestation in the Basin has left some areas with only 5 percent of the original forest

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[4] The GNP is a measurement of the economic performance of a country, equaling the sum of the values of all goods and services, plus investments including governmental expenditures, within a country.

[5] 1995 GNP as reported by The World Resources Institute, *1998-99 World Resources: A Guide to the Global Environment—Environmental Change and Human Health*, Oxford University Press, New York: 1998, p. 237.

cover. In the Brasilian State of São Paulo, the area under primary forest has fallen from 58 percent at the beginning of the twentieth century to about 8 percent at its close; in the State of Paraná, forest cover fell from 83 percent in 1890 to 5 percent in 1990. In 1945, 55 percent of the eastern part of Paraguay was forested; by 1990, only 15 percent was under forest cover.

In Brasil, rice is produced under irrigation in the basin of the Ibicuí River, a tributary of the Uruguay. This production has resulted in conflict between rice-growers and towns in the region, which need water for domestic consumption. In Argentina, areas planted to cereals and oil-seed crops increased from 20 to 26 million hectares during the 1990s, whilst, in the province of Buenos Aires alone, the area under cultivation grew by 40 percent between 1988 and 1993. The extent of lands utilized for cereal production has widened to include areas that are marginal for cereals, where intensive production and high inputs have increased the risk of soil degradation. This is of great concern; soil organic content has fallen by 50 percent from its value at the start of the twentieth century, reducing the capacity of the soil to hold water. Direct seeding with minimum cultivation is now leading to some reduction in soil loss, and the area thus cultivated is growing rapidly, but even low-till/no-till agriculture results in changes to the hydrological cycle. The economy of Paraguay, lying totally within the la Plata Basin, is highly dependent on agriculture, 90 percent of which is cattle production; but its production of cereals, currently about 10 million tons, is increasing due to the adoption of new technologies and expansion of areas in production.

Superimposed upon the demands for water for domestic and economic purposes in the Basin is the fact that more than 90 percent of the energy used by Brasil comes from hydropower, with the greater part of that hydropower being generated by impoundments on the Paraná River and its tributaries. This River produces the greater part of all of the hydropower produced in the whole of South America. Between 1965 and 1985, many dams for power generation were built on the River, and other works are planned on its tributaries, the Iguaçu, Piquirí, and Ivaí Rivers. On the international reach of the Paraná River, a dam is proposed to be constructed at Corpus, downstream from Itaipu. Beside the planned development at Corpus, another development is being planned at Garabi on the Uruguay River (between Argentina and Brasil)—of the potential production of 16,500 MW available from the Uruguay River, about 8,000 MW is already developed.

Potential hydropower production in the la Plata Basin has been estimated as 92,000 MW, about 60 percent of which has either already been realised or is in process of being so. This value is expected to increase as national demands for energy grow. The main installations currently producing hydro-electricity are: Itaipu on the Paraná River (its production being shared between Brasil and Paraguay), Yaciretá on the Paraná River (shared between Argentina and Paraguay), and Salto Grande on the Uruguay (shared between Argentina and Uruguay). Of the as yet unrealized capacity, a large part is on the common reaches shared by more than one country, with the greater portion being shared by Argentina and Brasil.

Annual growth in electricity demand has already exceeded 5 percent in most countries in the la Plata Basin, and there is concern that the construction of new developments will not keep pace with demand. Moreover, high dependence on hydropower has the consequence that electricity production is very vulnerable to drought; at the end of 2001, Brazil was obliged to impose energy rationing which reduced economic

production. In addition, dams constructed for hydropower generation are known to have modified the downstream character of the Paraná River.

Works to improve navigation within the la Plata Basin have been proposed and undertaken within the Basin since the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Historically, the Paraná and Paraguay Rivers, and, to a lesser extent, the Uruguay River, have provided the main transportation routes into the interior of the la Plata Basin; today, these rivers are still important for transport of regional agricultural products. The main navigable reaches include:

- the Paraná-Paraguay River waterway from Cáceres in Mato Grosso to the Atlantic Ocean, covering a distance of 3,600 km: there are plans to improve navigation along portions of this waterway by deepening the channel, thereby providing a passage navigable throughout the year. However, environmental concerns over this development, particularly with respect to the Pantanal, have limited the implementation of the Hidrovia to date. This waterway, however, is a natural line of access joining the interior of the South American sub-continent to the Atlantic Ocean, and one that has immense value for trade;
- the Tietê-Paraná River waterway: the Tietê River passes through an highly industrialised region of Brasil which produces 35 percent of the Brasilian GDP. This reach has locks through which products can be transported between São Paulo, Brasil, and the Paraná River waterway;
- the Uruguay River waterway downstream of the dam at Salto Grande: there is a navigable reach of the Uruguay River shared by Uruguay and Argentina. In addition, the River upstream of Salto Grande is also navigable to São Borja in the Brasilian State of Rio Grande do Sul.

ANNEX III

SOURCE DOCUMENTS USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE PDF BLOCK B DOCUMENT

1. Treaty of the la Plata Basin

2. Rules of the CIC.

3. Report on the Natural Resources of the la Plata River Basin. OAS, 1983.

4. Water Quality Information and Hydrologic Warning System for the la Plata River Basin: Part One. Diagnostic and Scoping Report. Report to the CIC, June 1998.

5. RIGA Report, Project OEA/FEMCIDI, Water Resources in the la Plata Basin.

6. GEF/OAS Upper Paraguay Project: Proceedings.

7. National Water Agency, Brasília, June 2001.

8. Guidelines for the Preparation of a Strategic Action Program for the Upper Paraguay River Basin and Pantanal: Discussion Paper. GEF/OAS Upper Paraguay Project, November 2001.

9. In-depth Evaluation of UNEP/GEF Project GF/1100-97-07: A Strategic Action Programme for the Binational Basin of the Bermejo River. UNEP/DEIA & EW/TR.2000-3, September 2000.

10. Tucci, C.E.M. and Clarke, R.T. Environmental Issues in the la Plata Basin. Water Resources Development, Volume 14, No.2, pp157-173, 1998.

11. Reduction of Vulnerability to Floods in River Basins: Final Report of the Inter-American Seminar-Workshop, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, 29 November - 1 December 1995.

12. Anderson, R.J. Jr, da Franca Ribeiro, N., and Diaz, H.F. An Analysis of Flooding in the Paraná-Paraguay River Basin. LATEN Dissemination Notes #5, The World Bank, Latin American Department, Environment Division, September 1993.

13. Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis of the Binational Basin of the Bermejo River, May 2000. ISBN No. 987-95081-4-9.

14. Strategic Action Plan for the Binational Basin of the Bermejo River, May 2000. ISBN No. 987-95081-4-9.

15. Bermejo Tarija: The Environmental Challenge. Binational Commission for the Development of the Upper Basin of the Bermejo and Grande de Tarija Rivers.

16. National Technical Office for the Pilcomayo and Bermejo Rivers: Executive Summary: National Commission for the Pilcomayo and Bermejo Rivers.

17. Strategic Action Program for the Bermejo Binational River Basin: Executive Summary, March 2000.

18. Strategic Action Program for the Binational Basin of the Bermejo River: Implementation Phase.

19. Use of Surface Water Resources: National Inventory 1997-1998, National Directorate for Hydrography, Water Resources Division, Montevideo, June 1999, Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

20. Project Document RLA/99/G31/A/1G/99: Environmental Protection of the la Plata River and its Marine Front: Prevention and Control of Contamination and Restoration of Habitats.

21. Climatology and Hydrology of the la Plata Basin: Document of the VAMOS Scientific Study Group on the la Plata Basin, August 2001.

PROGRAM OF ACTION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE LA PLATA BASIN (CIC)

In implementing the measures contained in the document entitled, "Identification of the Objectives of the System," approved by Decision No. 1/02 at the 528th Meeting of the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee for the la Plata Basin (CIC), this Program of Action will give priority to those initiatives that help strengthen capacity of the CIC for the integrated management of the la Plata Basin, with a view to furthering the harmonious and sustainable development of the region. [This Program of Action was approved at the 529th Meeting of the CIC.]

On the basis of the objectives stipulated in Article 1 of the Treaty of the la Plata Basin, and the agreements reached at the Foz do Iguazú Technical Meeting held during October 1999, efforts are being made to arrive at a common position on the Basin as quickly as possible. This position will pertain not only to matters related to management of water resources, but also to the other objectives of the Treaty.

To this end, and with the goal in mind of improving the quality of life of the Basin's inhabitants, priority will be given to implementing the following activities within the timescales periodically determined by the CIC:

1) Action: Enhance knowledge of water resources and their management to reduce vulnerability to floods and droughts, and to mitigate their impact on communications, transportation, production, and trade in the region

a) Develop and use representative models of the Basin, principally in relation to its water resources;

b) Acquire more knowledge of global and regional phenomena that have an impact on the la Plata Basin, such as climate change, oceanic and atmospheric currents, and the like;

c) Strengthen the "Technical Water Alert Counterpart," with a view to improving the daily operation of the early warning system, by expanding the network of observation stations, increasing production and exchange of water and meteorological information, and updating forecasting methods.

2) Action: Promote integrated management of water and soils to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants, preserve the health of the population, and maximize production in the region while preserving the quality of its waters, among institutional stakeholders and civil society in the member countries

a) Identify and implement pilot projects on waterbodies and in critical areas that present problems linked to erosion, sedimentation, contamination, and conflicting uses, as seen, for instance, in the following:

- Contaminated reservoirs
- Endangered wetlands
- Deforested, highly erosive areas
- Degraded agricultural areas subject to water risk
- High-risk urban areas;

b) Promote sound land management plans and inclusion of techniques for the sustainable use of soils;

c) Strengthen the "Water Quality Technical Counterpart," in order to:

- Step up implementation of scheduled activities
- Ensure continuity in selected monitoring stations
- Update the approved methodological guide
- Optimize sanitary control systems
- Sponsor hydrobiological studies and develop programs to preserve aquatic ecosystems and solve biological problems related to, and affecting, water resource development projects.

3) Action: Promote integration within the region

a) Strengthen the CIC as the permanent organ that promotes, coordinates, and monitors the progress of multinational activities to develop the resources of la Plata Basin so as to promote the harmonious and balanced development of the region, as established in the Treaty of the la Plata Basin and its statutes;

b) Identify currently projects under way or proposed by various agencies and multinational initiatives, and in which the countries of the Basin participate, and promotion of an exchange of experiences among them;

c) Identify ongoing projects to ensure that these projects continue to be implemented in an integrated manner;

d) Prepare and implement a "Framework Program for the Sustainable Development of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin;"

e) Coordinate and monitor the status of the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway (CIH) and the Financial Fund for the Development of the la Plata Basin (FONPLATA), in accordance with the provisions of the CIC Statutes;

f) Promote priority development projects in the Basin and support measures to seek financing for them from international organizations, especially from FONPLATA;

g) Develop and promote joint activities involving the private sector and organised civil society;

h) Expand the participation of the CIC in regional forums related to integrate actions and to identify opportunities for new projects.

4) Action: Harmonize and coordinate of data and information gathering related to the region and dissemination of that information through the General Secretariat

a) Implement the "Digital Mapping Project" within the la Plata Basin, incorporating information and data produced by projects in the countries of the region, as a basis for a future documentation/reference center for the Basin;

b) Encourage the exchangeof hydrological, meteorological, and water-quality information, with a view to creating a "Regional Data Bank;"

c) Expand and update the Documentation Center loicated in the CIC General Secretariat, using materials available at headquarters and contributions by member countries;

d) Integrate digital files prepared by member countries, as well as information from other sources, within a Geographical Information System (GIS);

e) Compile and process socio-economic information, such as river transport, agriculture, hydroelectric power, tourism, fishing, mining, and other related activities, relating to the water resources of the Basin;

f) Establish links between scientific and technical institutions present in the Basin, including research institutes, universities, and other organizations;

g) Establish links with networks of government agencies and nongovernmental organizations operating in the Basin, to exchange information on and further develop water resource management capabilities.

5) Action: Environmental preservation

a) Promote the creation of compatible environmental monitoring systems throughout the Basin, and especially within national parks and protected areas;

b) Promote public participation in the preservation of the environment, especially in reserves and biological corridors;

c) Promote reforestation to preserve biodiversity and enhance water management and sustainable economic development;

d) Develop environmental education programs.

6) Action: Harmonization of policies

a) Identify and disseminate the water resource management policies of the member states to encourage compatibility;

b) Promote the exchange of experiences in the area of water resource policy among representatives of the Executive and Legislative Branches in member countries;

c) Promote and disseminate the principles and recommendations of international conferences on water resources and environmental matters, as adopted by member countries;

d) Prepare policy guideline proposals on integrated water resource management applicable to member countries.

7) **Action: Training**

a) Prepare a training program on integrated water resource management geared to local governments and communities, and reflecting the regional characteristics of the member countries;

b) Disseminate information generated by the CIC.

Final considerations:

The actions referred to in this document are consistent with the most important priorities identified and proposed for implementation during the initial stage of this Program of Action. However, at the same time, if a need to carry out an activity not included in this Program of Action should become apparent while the foregoing actions are being implemented, the Unit for Projects will refer any such proposals to the CIC.

Pursuant to Resolution 1 (VI-E), this Program of Action will be submitted to the Foreign Ministers of the la Plata Basin for final approval.

PROPOSED PROJECT COMPONENTS AND WORK PROGRAM BY ACTIVITY

Countries:	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay
Project Title:	**Preparation of a Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with Respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change (A Framework Strategic Action Program for the la Plata Basin): Phase I.**
Focal Area: **(Cross-cutting Areas:**	International Waters OP # 9 Land Degradation, Climate Change, and Biodiversity
Requesting Agency:	UNEP
Local Executing Agency:	Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee (CIC) for the la Plata Basin, in cooperation with the following national institutions: Argentina: Ministerio de Infraestructura y Vivienda, Subsecretaria de Recursos Hidricos de la Nacion; Bolivia: Viceministerio del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Direccioin General de Clasificacion de Tierras y Cuencas; Brazil: Ministério do Meio Ambiente, Secretaria de Recursos Hídricos; Paraguay: Secretaría del Ambiente (SEAM), Dirección General de Proteccion y Conservacion de Recursos Hídricos; Uruguay: Ministerio de Transportes y Obras Públicas (MTOP), Dirección Nacional de Hidrografia (DNH).
Executing Agency:	General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS)

BACKGROUND

This proposal is the outcome of a process initiated by the countries of the la Plata River Basin during September 2001 through a technical meeting to discuss the idea of formulating a strategy for water resources management in the la Plata River Basin. Consequently, with the assistance of GEF PDF Block A funding from the GEF, and with the participation of UNEP (as GEF Implementing Agency) and the OAS (as Executing Agency), representatives from the five Basin countries held a preparatory technical meeting prior to the CIC meeting convened in Sao Paulo, Brazil, during April

2002. These meetings identified the main topics of common interest that affect the sustainability of development in the la Plata Basin, and defined the concept of a proposal for a project that would guide the actions of the Basin countries in the coordinated management of their shared water resources. With the support of the CIC, a second meeting of the Unit for Projects of the CIC was held in Buenos Aires during June of 2002. This meeting advanced the conceptual agreement achieved to date, instructing the Secretary General of the CIC to continue to elaborate a proposal to develop a Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin (Decision CIC N° 2/02-528). This application for funding of a PDF Block B through the GEF is a direct result of this agreement. Funds are requested from the GEF, through UNEP, under Operational Strategy Program 9 of the International Waters focal area.

DESCRIPTION OF PDF-B ACTIVITIES

The past two decades have witnessed important efforts to generate information, exchange data, and build technical capacity within the la Plata Basin. The PDF-B activities build on this momentum by preparing a project that will coordinate actions between the five Basin countries and address common problems that affect and are likely to affect the shared water resources of the la Plata Basin. These activities are proposed to be funded in part through the financial support of a PDF Block B grant by the GEF in the amount of US $ 700,000. In addition, the CIC has requested funding through FONPLATA (US $ 155,000) and other technical cooperation agencies. Completion of these activities will allow the five Basin countries, within the framework of the CIC, to define the parameters, establish terms of reference, and determine the components and activities to be included in this GEF project. The outcome of the activities set forth below will be the preparation of a project document (Project Brief) that will not only guide the application for GEF funds, but also stimulate parallel actions to strengthen the common vision of the Basin and is integrated management, through an institutionally effective and technically strengthened CIC. The preparation of the project will involve the institutions in each country responsible for defining the policies required for the sustainable and integrated management of water resources, including substantive participation from the appropriate national environmental institutions should water resources responsibilities be spread across several agencies.

The proposed project will focus on five principle areas of shared concern. These five areas also will form the basis for the activities proposed to prepare the project. These activities will:

1. define the institutional arrangements for the preparation of the project, the conduct of project activities, project execution, and stakeholder and public participation, under the auspices of the CIC;

2. enhance the capacity of the five countries to predict the likely impacts of climatic change and hydrologic variability;

3. instill a common vision for the development of the basin, and its water and natural resources, through the preparation of a diagnostic analysis of shared, transboundary concerns (TDA);

4. elaborate a framework of strategic actions (FSAP) for the integrated management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin;

5. identify and execute demonstration projects and other interventions as appropriate to address critical themes and areas ("hot spots").

These five core elements form the components of the PDF-B activities set forth below.

Activity 1. Strengthening Institutional Arrangements for the Integrated Management of the Basin, and Arrangements for the Preparation of the Project

Activity 1 addresses the issue of fragmented and weak institutions that currently characterize the basis for the management of the water resources of the la la Plata Basin. The restructured CIC, as of December 2001, was the first step toward creating a more efficient management mechanism for the la Plata Basin. The conduct by the CIC of the activities required to prepare this project is a continuation of this process, and further advances are proposed to be achieved throughout the process of preparing the Project.

This Activity has four complementary and interactive components:
i) strengthening of the CIC and their capacity to prepare the Project;
ii) promotion of public participation in the process;
iii) creation and dissemination of information on the proposed project; and
iv) preparation of the project document (Project Brief).

The cost of this Activity is US $ 719,500. GEF: US $ 240,700; co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 337,800, from FONPLATA in the amount of US $ 55,000, from UNEP and the OAS, each, in the amount of US $ 35,000 (in kind), and AAAS: US $ 16,000.

Component 1.a) Strengthening of the CIC for the preparation of the project.
Role of the CIC
The CIC is the agency established by the five signatory countries to the Treaty of the la Plata Basin, and the agency tasked by the countries to provide the institutional framework within which this GEF-funded project is to be executed. The CIC will be the local executing agency of the project. The CIC will have the technical and administrative support of the General Secretariat of the OAS—through the Unit of Sustainable Development and Environment and the offices of the OAS in each of the five countries—and of UNEP, as the GEF Implementing Agency. While UNEP is proposed as the GEF Implementing Agency—given the regional character of the project, UNEP's relationship to the GIWA project, and UNEP's role in the previous international waters projects being executed in critical sub-basins of the la Plata Basin—the participation of The World Bank and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is considered indispensable and will be welcomed during the preparation and conduct of the Project.

This Component will allow the CIC to secure agreement on the project, and initiate their role in coordinating the integrated management of the water resources of the la Plata Basin, pursuant to their mission: "...CIC is the permanent organ that promotes, coordinates and integrates the multinational actions guiding to the best use of the

resources of the la Plata Basin and the harmonious and balanced development of the region, through the achievement of the objectives set forth in the Treaty of the la Plata Basin and the Resolutions of the Meetings of Foreign Ministers." For this reason, it is necessary to strengthen the technical capacity of the General Secretariat of the CIC.

The agreement of a new statute for the CIC, approved by the five countries during December 2001, created a Commission of ten representatives and their alternates, two from each of the five basin countries. One of the representatives to the Commission is a political representative, charged with plenipotentiary powers by their governments, and the other is a technical specialist. The technical representatives for the Unit for the la Plata River Basin Project (UdeP-CIC). This Unit will coordinate and develop the technical aspects of the proposed project: (i) constituting the organ that will internalize agreed regional actions in each of the Basin countries, (ii) forming the channel by which proposals are developed, and (iii) catalyzing the preparation and execution of the program for the development of the Framework Strategic Action Program for the la Plata River Basin.

During the preparation phase of the project (GEF, PDF Block B), it is proposed that consultants specialized in institutional development and management be recruited to evaluate and propose mechanisms and instruments that will strengthen the technical and financial capacity of the General Secretariat of the CIC. This effort is proposed to be financed in part through FONPLATA.

This component is proposed to supplement the efforts of the governments in strengthening the CIC, by:

- facilitating the process and benefits to be accrued in formulating appropriate institutional models through the recent "twinning" of the CIC and the Commission for the Rhine, and
- elaborating projects in the areas of weather forecasting, water quality monitoring, and flood warning systems as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the CIC signed during November 2000, and supported by the WMO through technical cooperation and participation in the development of the Framework Strategic Action Program.

The CIC has requested of FONPLATA, as the financial organ of the la Plata Basin, a donation of US $ 155,000 to: i) facilitate the preparation of the project, ii) strengthen the capacity of the CIC, and iii) support the first phase of the development of a Digital Map of the Basin. The participation of FONPLATA is essential for the future implementation of the project, particularly with respect to investments and financing of activities within the critical areas and topics that are identified during the project.

This component also has the support of experts from the participating universities of the VAMOS/PLATIN Program, of the AAAS, and of the RIGA network, whose institutions are supporting their participation in executing activities and particular components within their specific areas of interest. The CIC will encourage broad participation in the process, and is open to the integration of new partners into the process during this phase of its preparation.

Project Governance

The institutional arrangements agreed for the preparation of the project (shown in Diagram 1, below) reflect the governance arrangements within the CIC. In accordance with its governing document approved by the Meeting of Foreign Ministers from the la Plata Basin during December 2001, the CIC is comprised of two regular representatives and two alternates from each Basin country. One of these representatives is political, invested by their government with plenipotentiary authority, and the other representative is technical, being a project specialist. The technical representatives form the Unit for Projects in the la Plata Basin System (PU-CIC). The PU-CIC is the agency within the CIC that is charged with: i) coordinating and implementing regional agreements through institutional action within each country, ii) supporting and sustaining environmental management efforts in the Basin, and, at the conclusion of the project, iii) preparing and executing the Framework Strategic Action Program that will be produced as the outcome of this project.

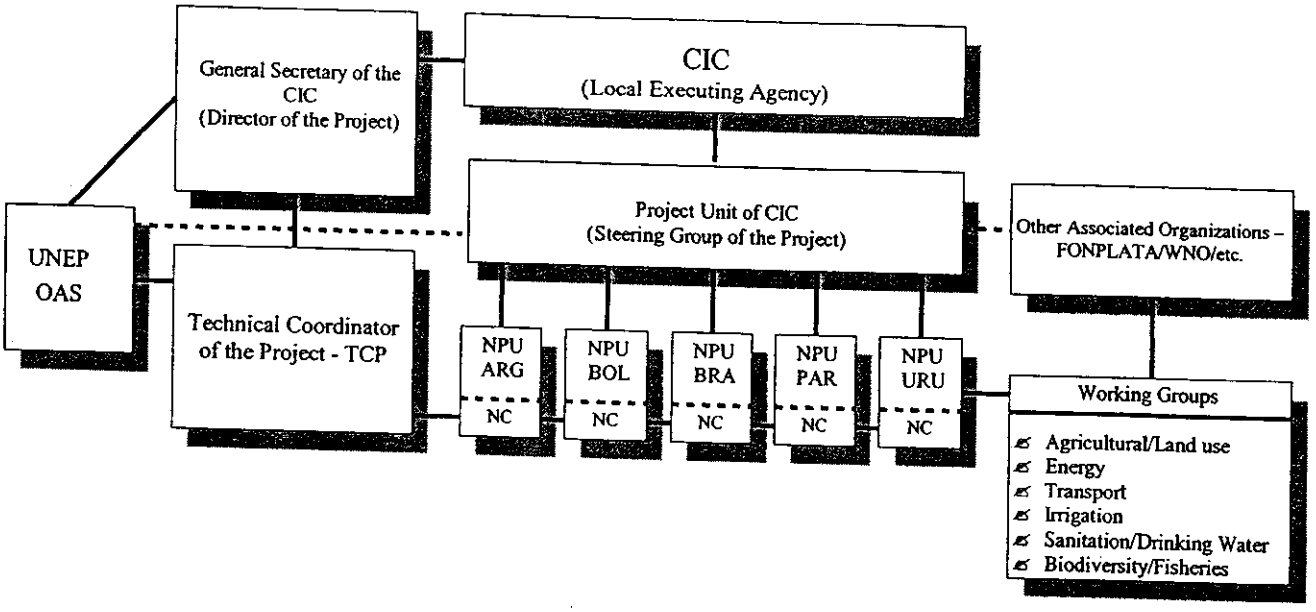
The Secretary General of the CIC will be the Director of the Project. In this role, the Secretary General will coordinate the technical work of the project and oversee preparation of the project document (Project Brief). the OAS will hire, in consultation and with the guarantee of the General Secretary of the CIC and the national technical representatives of each country (in accordance with its norms and administrative procedures), to a Technical Coordinator of the Project (PTC) who will be specialist in integrated handling of the water resources with wide experience in the topic and in the preparation of projects. The PTC will work with headquarters in the offices of the CIC in Buenos Aires and it will travel to the countries when it is necessary.

The PU-CIC will serve as a Technical Committee overseeing the scientific aspects of the project. This Committee is comprised of the Technical Representatives from the institutions in each country charged with developing policies for the management of water resources in each country. In addition, UNEP, the OAS, FONPLATA, and the other implementing agencies of the GEF (The World Bank and UNDP) will be invited to attend meetings relating to this project. In addition, representatives from other associated institutions that are collaborating in the financing and execution of the project will be invited to attend—these latter institutions being present in an *ex officio* capacity.

During the preparation of the project, each country will form a National Project Unit (NPU) that will coordinate between the institutions responsible for water resources management policy and integrate each government's institutional participation with that of the academic organizations and civil society participating in the Project. Since the project preparation is conceived as a consensus building process among the countries, the Activities will be developed on the basis of workshops, organized according to Component, and based on the existing institutions in each country. This process is envisioned as a means of facilitating the active participation and involvement of academic institutions and organizations from civil society. These consensus-building events (seminars and formal and informal meetings, national and international workshops, etc.) will be prepared with the support of consultants specialized in the subjects to be discussed. These consultants will act as facilitators of the process and catalyze the proposals agreed among the participants in the workshops. To guide these discussions and incorporate their outputs into the technical proposals those concerns that reflect a national consensus on high-priority topics, the National Project Units will

synthesize the inputs of specific Work Groups, created under the institutional auspices of the competent national agencies as a means of elaborating consensus on each specific topic.

Organigram for the Preparation of the Project



Each National Project Unit will identify a National Coordinator (NC) who will communicate with the CIC and the OAS. The NC, ideally, will be the Technical Representative to the CIC, or a designated official of the NPU. The NPU will be funded as part of the country-based co-financing designated for this project. This co-financing will include the costs of a compensation package based upon prevailing national rates in each country, dedicated technical staff time, and corresponding operational expenses.

As noted above, UNEP will be the Implementing Agency and the General Secretariat of the OAS, through the Unit of Sustainable Development and Environment, will be responsible for the preparation of the project in support of the CIC, coordinating with the office of the Secretary General of the CIC. The OAS, through their national offices, will administer the funds and support project activities in each participating country, and coordinate technical services provided to the project from their headquarters in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Component 1.b) Public Participation, Education and Communication.
During the preparation of the project, the active participation of organized interest groups will be promoted by: i) the participation of key representatives in the events, workshops and meetings, and ii) the participation of specialized consultants in the development of a public participation plan and the execution of the education and communication component of the project. Such participation will be facilitated through

both informal meetings in the countries and formal meetings at the national and international levels.

At the basin scale, public participation will be enhanced by the involvement of basin authorities, civil organizations, consortia and associations of municipalities, public companies and public service providers, unions, universities, and other networks. In addition, a more direct form of user participation will be through the participation of lenders and service providers in pilot demonstration projects addressing specific critical areas and topics ("hot spots"). Through this process, the participants will develop "ownership" of the project, knowing that their participation has helped to shape the proposals presented at the end of the project preparation process. In addition, the participation of these actors will develop concrete commitments and encourage complementary actions in support of the studies elaborated in the project document. Further, as an element of ensuring the sustainability of the project, it is anticipated that this process of public participation in the preparation of the project will be formalized in a Plan for Public Participation, Education and Social Communication that will be incorporated into the Framework Strategic Action Plan.

Responsible participation of the Basin's educated population is to be encouraged through the workshops and seminars included in each one of the activities included in the project preparation phase. An interactive Internet page, guided virtual dialogues on topics and matters of interest relating the project, and similar opportunities for participation of the general populace will be provided. Project documents will be posted on a worldwide web site to be designed and managed by a consultant specialized in social communication and engaged for this purpose.

Component 1.c) Information for the Preparation of the Project Digital Map and Center of Documentation of the la Plata Basin

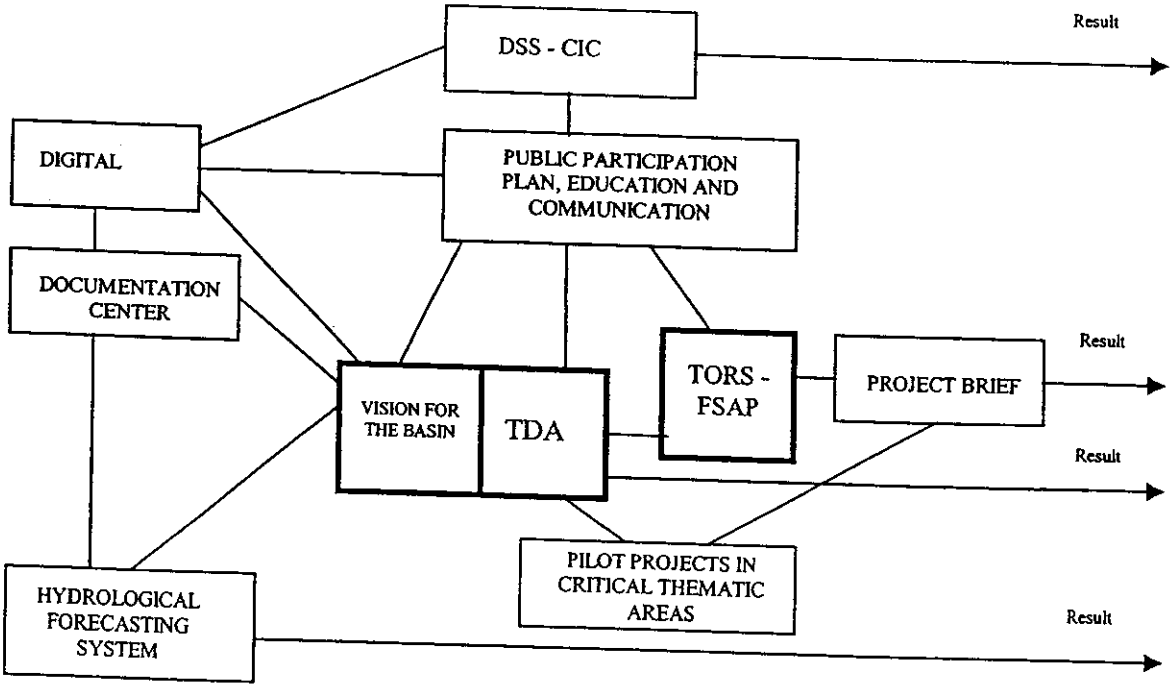
In parallel with the process of preparing the project, the CIC, in agreement with the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), has begun the elaboration of a Digital Map of the la Plata Basin. This component will further contribute to this process during the preparation of the project (see Annex V). The Digital Map will identify the sources of information, programs, and existing projects within the la Plata Basin, locating them geographically and identifying the territorial and thematic extent of the activities, the available information, and the responsible institution managing the projects and information. This data base be interactive, with participation from all five Basin countries. Various academic institutions, civil organizations, and government agencies have already committed their support to this initiative, and are contributing information.

During the preparation of this project, mechanisms to integrate GEF supported projects into this Digital Map will be identified. This will facilitate communication, exchange of information, and interaction between the different management levels. This effort will also prepare the basic geographic reference maps with up-to-date information for use in the project. Further, the process will contribute to strengthening the capacity of the CIC to use and to disseminate information. Support for this project will include funds provided through FONPLATA (US $ 25,000) and the AAAS (US $ 16,000) for the project teams, programs, and project coordination. Additional PDF Block B funding, in the amount of US $ 25,000, are proposed to be made available in order to carry out the basic digital cartographic work and enable the interaction of the mapping project with

the GEF project. The first phase of this Activity is being managed by the AAAS, based upon agreements reached in an international seminar in the region, and implemented under the direction of the CIC by CONICET of Argentina.

Another element of this Component will be the creation of a Documentation Center for the la Plata Basin, in cooperation with the CIC, by the Subsecretariat for Water Resources of the Republic Argentina, through its General Library on Water Resources. During this preparatory phase of the project, existing information will be organized within the countries of the region, beginning in Argentina, and made available to the five Basin countries through the CIC, FONPLATA, Committee for the Hidrovía (CIH), etc.

Component 1d) Preparation of the Project Document (Project Brief). This Component integrates the results and outputs of the other activities and components of these preparatory activities (Annex VI). This Component will be carried out by the Technical Coordinator of the Project during the final months of the PDF-B process. It is the final result of the preparation process and consists of the drafting of a consensus document under the direction of the CIC that defines, in a manner consistent with the focus, methodology, and format requirements of the GEF, an application for project funding that will lead to the elaboration of the Framework Strategic Action Plan for the Basin, in terms of which, projects will be identified to address critical areas and topics identified in the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA).



Activity 2. Predicting the Impacts of Climatic Variability and Change on the Hydrology of the la Plata Basin.

This Activity will elaborate the scope and terms of reference necessary to develop capacity within the la Plata Basin to predict, with more certainty, the impacts and consequences of climatic variability (short and medium term) and change (long term) on the water resources of the Basin. The development of this capacity will include the means to obtain or produce predictions on:

- climatic variability and change within the Basin;
- climatic variability and change within selected sub-regions of the Basin;
- the hydrological behavior of the Basin and its main subbasins;
- the likely surface flows and river discharges within the major rivers of the Basin; and
- the occurrence of extreme hydrological events, such as floods and droughts.

This Activity also will include the development of a methodology for the efficient incorporation from the various components needed to carry out predictions of impacts under a range of scenarios, and provide guidelines for the forecasting system to be prepared during the GEF project in the Basin. This Activity will ensure that appropriate information is obtained to allow: the adaptation of Basin communities to hydrological variability and climatic change, the planning for appropriate agricultural development, the operation of hydroelectric generation systems, provision of water supply, and preparation of systems to diminish the vulnerability of the Basin communities to climatic and hydrologic contingencies and catastrophes.

Activity 2 requires the participation of professionals with experience in a wide range of topics, including climatology, hydrology, physical geography, soils, and ecology. The final objective of is Activity is to develop an understanding and create a forecasting system that integrates knowledge across a range of disciplines that will capture the synergy inherent in such integration. A distinctive and innovative aspect of this project is the coordination of efforts at the most advanced levels of scientific and technological knowledge in creating a system designed from the beginning to satisfy users' needs. The process will be based on compiling results from different groups, acting independently form one of another, and whose outputs alone would have a much more narrow focus. The cost of this Activity is US $ 176,800. GEF: US $ 150,500, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 26,300.

Component 2.a) International Workshop to Define the Forecasting System.
This Component will be structured as an international workshop with the participation of between 25 and 30 specialists with experience in suitable disciplines. This workshop will results in the publication of a volume of proceedings, the objective of which will be the definition of a predictive model integrating climate, hydrology, land use, and soils that will form part of a predictive system that will be developed during the GEF project. It will detail high-priority geographical areas within the Basin, identifying not only the characteristics of these areas but also the investigatory capacity, gaps in knowledge, and information needs in each of the areas. This output will inform work groups created during the project, who will sum up the conclusions of the workshop in appropriate documents.

A possible strategy for building a predictive hydroclimatological system that would include a consideration of the use of the Basin soils would to utilize the climate predictions being generated by international centers as inputs to hydrological models for specific regions of the Basin identified as critical in terms of the information required by

the users. These hydrological models will be designed with a view toward the special characteristics of the Basin, including its geography, soils, and distribution of the human settlements.

Component 2.b) Design of the Forecasting and Hydrologic Management System. This Component will generate information required for the design and operation of the forecasting system. Three main tasks are envisaged:

i) The gathering and publication of a data set (metadata): A great quantity of climatological, hydrological, morphological, and land use data, and data on soils, geography, and population distributions, will be necessary to design and to validate the prediction system. In order to conform these data to the modelling task, it is important to decide on the input formats to be used, and the outputs to be produced, in view to the needs of the users and capacities of the institutions.

ii) The creation of a detailed vision of the hydrological infrastructure and its role in the management of the resources water in the Basin: To assist in determining the effects of river regulation, and evaluating the risks to such infrastructure from variations in river flows due to climatic variability, it will be necessary to analyze the impacts and effects of climatic variability in different geographical areas of the Basin. This analysis will allow appropriate local strategies to be developed for the management of the Basin's water resources water that have a Basin focus, but incorporate the human components and particular regulations within critical areas of the Basin.

iii) The development of a conceptual model of the Basin that identifies the influence of the changes in the landscape on flood patterns: With the objective of determining the real impacts of climate change on the land and water resources of the Basin, this component will develop a project that examines the relative value of lands within the Basin, their vulnerability to climatic change, and the likely economic costs of climatic changes. This analysis will integrate existing economic and ecological information (used to value the various types of land uses) with AVHRR satellite information on soils and land uses from 1992-1993 (used to determine soil types and vulnerabilities) to determine these likely costs. This project will guide the detailed development of future investigations, based upon existing information.

In summary, Activity 2 is envisioned as a team effort, involving experts from several scientific and technological disciplines, with the objective of preparing a predictive model integrating the climate-water-land system of the Basin during the project. For this reason, the successful completion of this Activity will represent a significant advance for the scientific community, not only within the countries of the Basin, but also within South America, which has, in general, been one of the poorest regions in the world insofar as information gathering and forecasting is concerned. The local willingness to develop such an advanced system will stimulate the collaboration needed among those producing the information in order to generate the model outputs needed at the level of the end-users of the information that play key roles in the economic development of the countries.

Activity 2 will be carried out by VAMOS/PLATIN, in close collaboration with RIGA and the AAAS. Specifically, VAMOS/PLATIN will lead the workshop and work groups assembled from among the representatives of the various participating programs. In an international workshop, their contributions will define, in detail, the hydrological and soils data required. The AAAS will coordinate the development of the conceptual framework and data base within which land use, hydrology, and development patterns

are defined, and RIGA will coordinate the follow-up investigations and refinements of the hydrological infrastructure and water resource management strategies in the Basin.

Activity 3. Development of a Common Vision of the la Plata Basin and Formulation of the Framework TDA.

This Activity will generate consensus agreements on the objectives that the Basin communities have for the la Plata Basin. This consensus will inform the manner in which the Basin countries collaborate in their efforts to sustainably and strategically develop the Basin's resources. Based upon an analysis of the current situation, and the main problems identified, a vision for the Basin will be defined and agreed, in part, based upon those issues of transboundary interest set forth in the framework TDA.

The development of the vision and the framework TDA will be integrated through a process of stakeholder participation at the Basin level, as developed under Activity 2. In addition, this process will integrate the scientific knowledge of the region with the demands of the users, and with the judicial and institutional instruments currently developed by the governments of the countries.

The preparation of the framework TDA will be the central activity in the formulation of a Basin Vision. It will be the task of the Technical Coordinator, charged with the preparation of the project document, to prepare the framework TDA, with the support of the technical institutions and their staff in the countries, and with input from the specialized consultancies and workshops. Initially, a consultant with proven experience in the field of the sustainable development will be hired for the purpose of preparing a methodology and working guidelines to conduct a process leading to the development and preparation of the Basin Vision. As set forth in these guidelines, the national executing agencies will conduct national workshops in each of the five Basin countries. These workshops will be conducted based upon defined themes, with the participation of the competent institutions with an interest in these selected topics, including academic institutions and organizations from civil society. The participants will be assisted by a qualified facilitator. The formal workshops will be preceded by informal work group meetings that will prepare the topics and themes for discussion in the formal meetings. These groups will be chaired by the national representatives of the CIC Working Groups, as outlined in Activity 1. Through this iterative process, each country will develop a national vision, which will be captured in documents structured in a similar way and designed to facilitate their integration at the Basin level. These national documents will be presented at an international seminar by a delegate, chosen by the participants at each national workshop, and appointed to address a specific topic. The international seminar will be structured in such a way as to accommodate both plenary sessions and breakout work groups in which the various representative organizations—institutions responsible for various economic sectors and services, river authorities or basin organization, water users, producer organizations and private companies, unions, workers and peasants' organizations, indigenous peoples organizations, industrial organizations, rural producers, state agencies, etc.—will work together to develop an integrated vision of the entire basin. Specific attention will be given to gender and generational issues, focusing on women and youth. The resultant, unified Basin Vision will be documented by the facilitator(s) and the Technical Coordinator of the Project

Based upon the Basin Vision, consultants specialized in the identification, characterization, and quantification of the transboundary problems and their root causes will prepare the framework TDA, with support of national work groups. A draft of this document will be presented and agreed at a second international seminar, which will include the participation of personnel from the institutions responsible for the topics discussed and the CIC Working Groups, enlarged as necessary with invited individuals identified during the preparation process as key participants from each country's point-of-view. These individuals will be invited to participate by the National Directors of the project.

The cost of this Activity is US $ 227,200. GEF: US $ 147,100, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 30,100, and from the WMO of US $ 50,000.

Component 3.a) A Vision for the Sustainable Development of the la Plata Basin. This Component sets forth the actions required for the development and articulation of a unique and common Basin Vision for the la Plata Basin. This Component will define the shared objectives toward which the Basin communities aspire in their process of sustainable development within the Basin. This Vision will subsequently guide the protection and use of the water resources whether they be surface water, groundwater or atmospheric moisture, in a manner that fully integrates such resources into the economic system of the goods and services contributed by nature or created by humans—in other words, an Ecosystem Vision. It will be promoted by the government institutions responsible for the water and atmospheric resource management policy, academic institutions, private companies, and civic organizations. The development and dissemination of a single, comprehensive strategy for the Basin is envisaged as considering, *inter alia*: i) currently unsatisfied, basic needs among the population; ii) the production of foods; iii) the creation of economic-production capacity and social savings; iv) protection of large natural ecosystems; v) the adaptation of the Basin to the challenges of global climatic change and its causes; and vi) the reduction of environmental, social, and economic vulnerability to the natural and anthropogenic risks. One of the central elements of the Vision for the development of the Basin will be the articulation of specific objectives for: i) the protection and use of water resources through integrated management and shared benefits; ii) the valuation of water resources; iii) the development of an agreed system of coordinated governance of water resources; and iv) an analysis of the common interests of the Basin countries, particularly with respect to the protection and use of their waters. The definition and agreement among the countries on the Basin Vision will be a fundamental step in advancing toward the integrated management, and coherent and shared use of the la Plata Basin with a positive orientation to its sustainable development. The adoption of this Basin Vision is considered to be a political and technical objective of first magnitude. This step will allow the countries and peoples of the Basin to specify, with greater clarity, the priority performance areas upon which the CIC can build the Framework Strategic Action Program.

Component 3.b) Framework Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA).
The agreement of the Basin Vision will be supplemented, to the extent necessary to define the basis for the FSAP, by a framework for diagnostic analysis of the current and emergent transboundary problems (TDA) and of their causes roots. The framework TDA will look identify, localize, and quantify the transboundary problems facing the

Basin, identify their root causes, establish the extent to which resolution is possible and the highest priorities for action, and define the lines of complementary remedial efforts that will promote the sustainable development and management of the Basin in a manner consistent with the Vision. The TDA framework will include: i) an analysis of the types and origins of contamination of the waterbodies in the Basin through improved monitoring and instrumentation of environmental rehabilitation actions; ii) an integrated study of soil erosion, transport, and deposition that identifies its causes, transboundary effects, and impacts on infrastructure, the economy and the ecosystems, particularly wetlands, in order to identify and propose concrete actions that will best address current and emerging problems; iii) an analysis of aquatic ecosystems and their uses, especially fishing activities, to develop the technical, economic, and legal instruments for their sustainable management; and iv) the identification of critical topics and areas within which pilot demonstration project would be required to refine practices and determine implementation costs.

Activity 4. Elaboration of the Process to prepare a Framework Strategic Action Program (FSAP) for the Integrated Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin.

During the preparation of the project, the constituent elements, scope, and terms of reference of the FSAP will be determined, based upon role of the CIV in planning and managing the different activities required to achieve the objective outlined in the project document in an integrated and efficient manner. The constituent elements of the FSAP (FSAP outline) will be defined by the Basin Vision and the framework TDA, within which the Program will be formulated. The following issues are envisaged:

- consolidation of the technical capacity of the CIC to sustain this initiative, efficiently coordinate the integrated management of the Basin's water resources in the short, medium and longer terms, and integrate the strengthened capacities of the Basin countries for the management of information and integration of experiences from this and other GEF projects in the Basin, taking advantage of learned lessons, and developing a Decision Support System for the Basin;
- design of appropriate technical procedures for the adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climatic variability and change that will alert communities and prevent and mitigate, to the extent necessary, the occurrence of catastrophic events, particularly of the recurrent floods and droughts that affect the distribution and availability of the water resources of the Basin;
- develop appropriate technical and economic instruments for the integrated management of the water resources, harmonizing the juridical and institutional frameworks and developing, with the countries, mechanisms for the promulgating appropriate legislation, assisting in the protection of the water resources, and broadly integrating measures to address contamination, erosion, transportation and deposition of silts, and major water use conflicts, to promote their rational and equal use for sustainable development, preparing and agreeing coordinated actions to forecast and mitigate catastrophic events of an anthropogenic nature that place human populations, their investments, and the natural ecosystems at risk, elaborating a system of impartial evaluation of regional and national projects that affect the water resources of the la Plata Basin across the boundaries of the countries, and proposing projects and actions that will guide societal, public and private investments toward aspects and key actions for their sustainable development;

- promote communication and participation of interested stakeholders in the integrated management and sustainable use of water resources through education for the sustainable development; and
- propose, evaluate, and implementing the Framework Strategic Action Program.

The cost of this Activity is US $ 231,900. GEF: US $ 134,700, and co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 47,200, and from WMO US $ 50,000.

Component 4.a) Consolidation of the CIC in the System of the la Plata Basin. The effort of strengthening the technical and financial capacity of the CIC during the preparation of the project will focus on sustainability in accordance with the objectives of the Basin Vision. This strengthening process will be based upon the agreed issues of common interest to the countries, as described in the FSAP and derived from the TDA. The consolidation of the CIC as the lead agency within the Framework of the la Plata Basin will include four specific meetings of the UdeP-CIC to elaborate the scope and responsibilities inherent in this role. These meetings will be carried out prior to the International Seminar and, later on, will be continued during the proposed national workshops, which will define and refine the strategy by which the CIC formulates the Basin Vision. Following agreement on this role, the CIC will carry out these duties in the development of the preparatory works for the FSAP. During this process, the CIC will propose an appropriate instrument(s) to be define their relationship with the MERCOSUR within the la Plata Basin. The meetings will be supported at times by consultants and by the Technical Coordinator of the Project, who will prepare the consent documents required to consolidate the role of the CIC in collaboration with representatives of the countries.

A specific aspect of this process of consolidation of the role of the CIC is the development of a Decision Support System (DSS). During the preparatory phase of the project, this will involve preparing the conceptual bases and terms of reference for the activity within each country and in the General Secretariat of the CIC. The System is envisaged as having a common base such as a climatic-hydrological model, by which to integrate the behavior of the la Plata system. This will allow evaluations to be conducted with consideration of the time element, and, for this reason, permit changes that may take place in the Basin to be forecast in time to allow development of such instruments and contingency plans as to avoid the catastrophic effects of both natural and human activities and events. This activity will support a gathering of relevant institutions from the Basin countries under the auspices of the General Secretariat of the CIC to begin to define the proposed system. Specialist consultants will help to facilitate this process with a view to developing the DSS during the project. This System will be related to the activities proposed for the production of the Digital Map of the Basin, as noted in Activity 1, and will be assisted by the Center for Documentation of the la Plata Basin of the CIC.

To strengthen the national institutions in each country of the Basin, necessary to implement the project, the institutional analyses already proposed or developed by other GEF projects in the Basin will be reviewed and supplemented as necessary. This activity will identify institutional gaps within the management structure of the Basin in the framework of the CIC. Based upon this review, specific proposals to strengthen these national institutions will be built into the project. An institutional specialist to

conduct this work will be contracted by the National Project Units in each country. Their conclusions and proposals will be synthesized at one of the meetings of the UdeP-CIC, where they will be debated and adjusted in collaboration with the GEF project managers from GEF International Waters projects in the Basin.

This Component will support arrangements for the execution of the project. This Component also will identify and develop the forms of cooperation considered necessary so that each country can participate in a similar manner, within the framework of the CIC. The Technical Coordinator of the project, in agreement with the Secretary General of the CIC (Director of the Project), will elaborate a proposal to be presented to the Steering Committee for arrangements to carry out the preparation of the Project.

A specific element of this Component will be the design of an evaluation and monitoring system for the project. The design will include the scope, terms of reference, and definitive costs of this action item. It is anticipated that this activity will be managed by the Technical Coordinator of the Project, with the support of a specialized consultant to be hired at the end of the preparation phase of the project, following completion of the agreed activities. The form, instruments, and key indicators for monitoring the execution of the project and evaluating its results will follow GEF usage in this field.

Component 4.b) Integrated Water Resources Management Strategy.
This Component will seek to agree the development of instruments for the integrated management of the shared water resources among the Basin countries. This Component will form a coherent base for future actions to be taken in resolving the greatest asymmetries in the treatment of critical topics addressing both the quantity and quality of the water resources.

The critical topics to be considered under this Component include the damages caused by floods and droughts in the Basin, which will provide an immediate orientation for this Component. To this end, the results and agreements reached during the preparation of Activities 1 and 2 will be incorporated into this Component. This Component will endeavor to reach consensus on policies, plans, and concrete actions to assist the Basin countries adapt and mitigate the effects of climatic variability ands change, keeping in mind that the forecasts are derived from analyses and models of variability and climatic change as well as observed hydrology. Plans and cooperative projects and/or investments will be identified to: i) limit and prevent, to the extent possible, the causes of the climatic variability and change such as changes in the use of soils and in the emissions of CO_2, among other factors; and ii) remedy critical situations in the Basin so as to diminish vulnerability to catastrophic floods and droughts through the development of zoning and land use plans, integrated operation of hydraulic control structures, use of flood and drought forecasting models, and preparation of operational contingency plans, with the participation of civil society. This Component will facilitate national, multisectoral meetings, supported by specialized consultants, as well as an international seminar. Technical support from scientific personnel and technicians will be developed as an output of Activity 2. The results of this Component will include the development of proposals for policies, plans, and specific projects intended to be implemented by a Working Group of the CIC (Work Group on Floods and Droughts) tasked with forecasting and managing floods and droughts in the la Plata Basin, in cooperation with the Basin countries.

In addition to the issues that will be analyzed during the preparation of the TDA in the Basin, the development of additional instruments for the Integrated Management of the Water Resources is proposed to: i) advance the equitable and rational use of these resources; ii) prevent, avoid, and remedy the contamination of waterbodies, especially those currently impaired by agrotoxins of human origin, through preparation of contingency plans; iii) avoid the incremental sedimentation of waterbodies from increased erosion and transportation of silts; and iv) resolve the conflicts among alternative uses of the water. One activity will define and develop a variety of coordinated management instruments: i) technical instruments, including the definition of hydrological models for the integrated management of the water resources, calculation of water balances, and the elaboration of a plan for monitoring the waters; ii) judicial-institutional instruments, including the revision and improved harmonization of the judicial framework in the countries and their component jurisdictions, an analysis of the policies on property and water rights, the definition of use agreements, such as fishing agreements, what will be carried out in coordination with Group 6 of MERCOSUR that is tasked with the harmonization of environmental legislation in the countries (including the associated countries as in the case of Bolivia); iii) economic instruments, including the use of common principles in the countries and jurisdictions for water resource appraisals, management, and collections (i.e., the user-payer principle, etc.); and iv) communications instruments, to facilitate the exchange of experiences and lessons learned among projects financed by the GEF and others in parts of the la Plata Basin.

The process of defining and agreeing these management instruments will conform to the framework of the CIC Working Groups, structured on the basis of topics of interest to the countries to be assisted by means of the development of these instruments. These topics, in principle, will include: i) water quantity (hydrology); ii) pollution (ecological rehabilitation); iii) soil degradation (biodiversity and agriculture); and iv) sedimentation (transportation and energy). Each one of these groups, within the CIC, will have certain budgetary support in order to finance international meetings and recruiting of consultants in the topic areas, in order to facilitate the definition of and development of management instruments.

Activity 5. Pilot Demonstration Projects for the Management of Critical Areas and Topics.

During the preparation of the project, and complementing Activity 3, which will define a Basin Vision and characterize and quantify the shared transboundary concerns (through the TDA process), specific activities stemming from the experiences of other GEF projects within the Basin will be defined. These topics and areas will be those considered to be most urgent and include those issues on which it is possible to act with immediacy during the period of preparation of the FSAP. These areas and topics will be of such high-priority for action that they will become the subject of pilot demonstration projects within the Basin. No more than four such projects are currently envisaged; each being essential for resolving and identifying the feasibility and costs associated with specific interventions required for the sustainable management of the Basin's water resources. In selecting these topics and areas, the project team, in association with consultants as necessary, will consider: i) the relative importance of the proposed action in the hierarchy of critical topics affecting the management of water resources in the

Basin; ii) the geographical balance, so that actions will complement the capacity building and institutional strengthening activities in each of the countries; iii) the likelihood of the actions resulting in clearly defined outcomes during the period of execution, iv) the degree to which the actions will be reproducible and applicable to problems or topics of Basin-wide concern, and, therefore, able to inform the FSAP; and v) their unique quality and likelihood of supplementing the experiences of projects previously financed by the GEF in the Basin. The selection of these topics and areas will be made by a specialist consultant in the management of water resources, who will visit the countries to identify and to define the project in agreement with the UNP of each country. The scope and nature of these projects will be presented by the consultant at the International seminar convened to define the Framework Strategic Action Program for the Basin. Once selected and clearly described, the projects will be fully profiled so as to ensure their viability and timely execution. To support this process, consultancies, meetings, and workshops involving key actors from two or more countries are foreseen. These sessions will be designed to validate the proposals and to obtain necessary commitments relating to stakeholder participation and the sustainability of the activities on the part of the stakeholders. The terms of reference will be developed in the necessary detail to allow the implementation of the proposed activities, including costs, indicated results, and indicators of success (to be determined by appropriate monitoring and evaluation procedures).

The cost of this Activity is US $ 153,400. GEF: US $ 27,000, and co-financing from FONPLATA in the amount of US $ 100,000 and from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 26,400.

COSTS

In the Chart 1 (synthesis) and in the Annex VII, the costs of the preparation of the project are presented by financing source, identifying the requested contributions to the PDF, Block B, process from the GEF, other agencies, and national sources.

TIME LINE

The preparation phase of the project will have a duration of 18 months.

CHART 1. COST TABLE

ACTIVITY	COST (in thousands of US $)			
	National[6]	GEF	Other Agencies	TOTAL
1. Strengthening Institutional Arrangements for the Integrated Management of the Basin, and Arrangements for the Preparation of the Project	337.8	240.7	16—AAAS[7] 55—FONPLATA 35—UNEP 35—OAS	719.5
2. Predicting the Impacts of Climatic Variability and Change on the Hydrology of the La Plata Basin	26.3	150.5		176.8
3. Development of a Common Vision of the La Plata Basin and Formulation of the TDA	30.1	147.1	50—WMO	227.2
4. Elaboration of a Framework Strategic Action Program (SAP) for the Integrated Management of the Water Resources of the La Plata Basin	47.2	134.7	50—WMO[8]	231.9
5. Identification of Pilot Demonstration Projects for the Management of Critical Areas and Topics	26.4	27.0	100—FONPLATA	153.4
TOTAL US $	467.8	700.0	155—FONPLATA 100—WMO 16—AAAS 35—UNEP 35—OAS	1,508.8
GRAND TOTAL US $	467.8	700.0	341.0	1,508.8

[6] Costs calculated based upon support from the countries to the CIC and earmarked for support of the preparation of the project through personnel, infrastructure, and equipment, including institutional representation.

[7] AAAS, for Digital Mapping.

[8] WMO, for technical cooperation with the CIC

DIGITAL MAPPING PROJECT OF AAAS

INTRODUCTION

The la Plata River Basin is home to nearly 100 million people in five countries. It is shared by Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay and covers a surface of 3,100,000 km^2. The la Plata Basin comprises the Pilcomayo, the Bermejo, the Paraguay-Parana rivers system and the Uruguay River system. The Parana and the Uruguay rivers meet at the head of the la Plata River, which forms the world's largest estuary. The Basin also contains the Pantanal, the world's largest freshwater floodplain and home to numerous endangered animal species. The la Plata Basin encompasses a region of great economic, ecological, and geopolitical value, and one of the largest landscape conversions in the world, as agriculture and industry replace grasslands and forests. This conversion has had significant consequences for the Basin, as changes in the hydrological cycle and ecosystems impact the livelihoods of people locally and around the region.

Enabling economic growth in the Basin without adversely impacting the environment and livelihoods requires improved development and resource management strategies. To be effective these strategies must involve a wide range of local, regional, and global stakeholders across sectors, disciplines and national borders. While many scientific organizations are well suited for such initiatives, international and multidisciplinary coordination among scientists, stakeholders and policymakers has been lacking due to commonly occurring communication barriers and the difficulties of collaboration within and between most of the organizations.

A wide variety of governmental, non-governmental, and academic organizations are active in the management and conservation of natural resources in the la Plata Basin. These organizations seek to improve understanding of climate and hydrology, promote sustainable economic activities (particularly agriculture), and improve the livelihoods of local peoples throughout the Basin. However, these activities suffer from fragmentation across national and local boundaries and scientific disciplines. Frustration with this fragmentation is often expressed by scientists and policymakers, and results in a relentless process of unsustainable natural resource management and development of the watershed.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The EAOR Project seeks to undertake a simple step towards the integration of related organizational activities across the la Plata Basin, through the creation of an accessible and user-friendly digital map of existing organizations and activities in the Basin. This one-year, cost effective project proposes to combine and integrate existing databases of organizational contact and project information with a simple Geographic Information System (GIS)[9] interface, which will serve as a communication venue to enhance the sustainable management of this Basin.

[9] A GIS is a digital mapping tool originally developed by military and space agencies decades ago for utilizing any and all information with a geographic nature. As desktop computing power has increased and costs have decreased, GIS use has exploded in recent years with a wide

The resulting product will serve as a central information source detailing where exactly the activities of each organization occur within the la Plata Basin. In addition to the location of their activities, standard information such as each organization's name, address, phone numbers, and web sites and where exactly the activities of the organization occur. With this information easily accessible, the various organizations active in the la Plata Basin can learn about recent and existing activities carried out by other organizations that are relevant to their work, and explore ways of collaboration and pooling assets across borders and disciplines. Development and implementation of cooperative projects, in turn, will promote the integration of public and private institutions, scientific and technical experts, with communities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the la Plata Basin.

WORK PLAN

EAOR will begin by collecting and organizing existing databases provided by the five la Plata Basin countries with information of scientific, academic, governmental and non-governmental organizations, detailing standard information such as the organizations' name, address, phone numbers, and web sites. EAOR staff will research each organization in the databases to determine where exactly its activities occur and to classify the organization's activities according to a predetermined list of relevant thematic tracks, such as agriculture, climate, poverty alleviation, water use, urbanization, biodiversity, and more. With this information, the geographic boundaries of these activities can be literally drawn in the GIS interface (or uploaded from a georeferenced map, whenever available) and presented in a color-coded and graphical format. Depending on the kind of data obtainable, an array of information details and scales of resolution can be integrated within the GIS interface.

In an ongoing process, project staff will research other available databases and incorporate new organizations and projects to the digital map as they become available. For this purpose, a standard datasheet will be designed and a map of the la Plata Basin will be digitalized, and both will be sent out to various local, state, national and international organizations and universities to request information about recent and current research activities in the la Plata Basin. Various individuals and entities have already contacted AAAS to offer their organizational databases from different parts of the la Plata Basin, including the Bi-national and Tri-national Commissions for the Bermejo, Pilcomayo, Upper Paraguay, Guarani Aquifer, and the Maritime Front, hydrological agencies in the la Plata Basin countries, as well as national and regional NGO coalitions. The project will seek to incorporate each and every relevant organization in the la Plata Basin that has been active since 1968. The choice of this baseline year is due to the fact that the Organization of American States (OAS) already conducted an inventory of activities in the la Plata Basin prior to 1968, published in "Cuenca del Plata; studio para su planificación y desarrollo" (Washington DC, 1968-1973).

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variety of commercial, scientific, and policy organizations developing uses for it. A GIS provides a way to store, access, analyze, and display any and all information which can be presented as a map. It allows combinations of different data types, simplification of complex issues, and effective communication of otherwise difficult subjects through maps.

Based on experience from previous AAAS activities in the la Plata Basin, it is anticipated that most of the information resources needed to complete this database will be readily available, and when necessary could be made compatible by a modest and dedicated project staff. In addition to three AAAS technical and managerial staff members, the project will include three staff members of PROATLAS, an Argentine research institute specializing in mapping. PROATLAS staff will carry out most of the research and data entry for the central database, as well as the GIS mapping. This institution will also contribute to the project by facilitating partial in-kind support for the physical space, the GIS software, computer equipment, and their technical expertise. At present, PROATLAS has already engaged in exploratory initiatives in order to assess the magnitude and evaluate the availability of potential databases.

The other key partner in this project is the Comite Intergubernamental de la Cuenca del Plata (CIC, or Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee for the la Plata Basin), the official framework organization of the la Plata Basin countries. The CIC will provide overall local coordination and will facilitate communication with various organizations from the la Plata Basin countries active within the Basin, and that might be willing to offer their databases and other such information. The CIC has already contacted PROATLAS in order to coordinate their joint efforts to collect available databases. In addition, the CIC will help ensure that the results and benefits of the project are publicized and shared widely among the la Plata Basin countries, through its formal and informal communication mechanisms. Finally, the CIC will be in charge of the product's maintenance and update process once this one-year project is completed, with support from its financial arm–the Financial Fund for the Development of the la Plata Basin or FONPLATA- and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

ANTICIPATED RESULTS

The final result of the project will be a ***digital map*** accessed via the Internet or on a CD. This digital map will display all the boundaries of the la Plata Basin organizations activities, color-coded to show what types of activities are being carried out, and searchable via a simple click of the mouse or the name of the town or region where the activity occurs. As such, the digital map will serve as a communication tool to increase transfer of knowledge regarding multidisciplinary efforts towards sustainable management. It is this kind of international scientific collaboration that will benefit the citizens of each country with more effective collaboration and use of their valuable resources.

DISSEMINATION OF THE RESULTS

Access to the database will be available via the Internet, and for those areas where Internet access is not feasible, a CD will be directly mailed to the organization free of charge. Initial distribution may include a small-scale product demo distributed to relevant organizations associated with the la Plata Basin sustainable development. Existing academic, scientific, and conservation networks and publications will be utilized to reach out to a wide audience of governmental, non-governmental, and academic organizations that are active in the management and conservation of natural resources in the la Plata Basin. In addition, as stated above, the CIC will use its formal and informal communication mechanisms to help ensure that the results and benefits of the project are publicized and shared widely among the la Plata Basin countries.

Whenever appropriate, presentations and demonstrations will be made at professional meetings to communicate the value and use of this information product. In addition, the process of generating this product will require contacting most organizations, which will serve as an opportunity to make such organizations aware of the existence and value of this centralized information source.

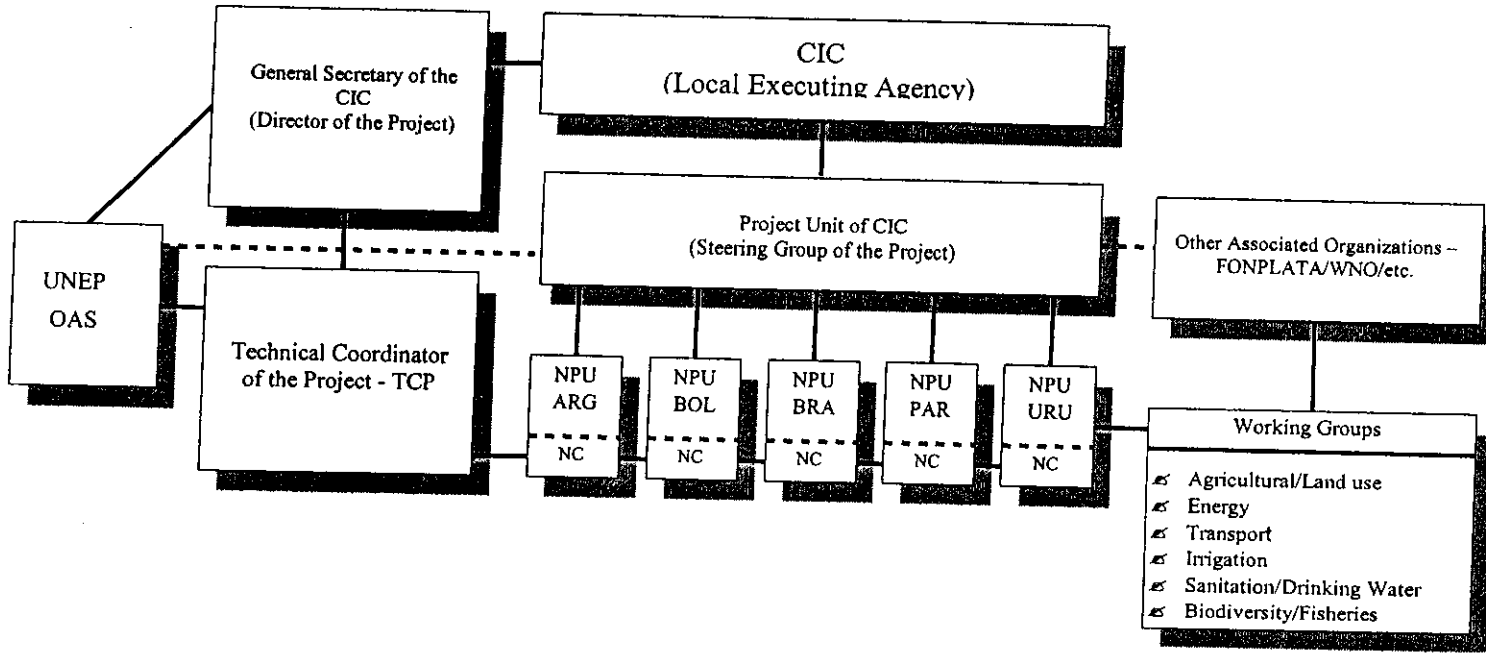
PROJECT COSTS

The cost of this Activity is US $ 90,000. GEF: US $ 25,000; co-financing from the countries and the CIC in the amount of US $ 24,000, from FONPLATA in the amount of US $ 25,000, and from AAAS: US $ 16,000.

ANNEX VII

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE PROPOSED FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PROJECT

Organigram for the Preparation of the Project



ANNEX VIII

COSTS AND DETAILED FINANCING FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PROJECT: COST TABLE

COSTS AND FINANCING
(In thousands in US $)

ACTIVITY / COMPONENT / INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS	Countries CIC	Implementing OAS	Other Sources	TOTAL
Component 1a Strengthening CIC	**273.6**	**103.2**	**100.0**	**476.8**
Consultancies		25.0	Fonplata 30.0	55.0
Technician/Secretary	5.4	11.0		16.4
International Communications	7.2	7.2		14.4
Translations		8.0		8.0
CIC staff	18.0	6.0		24.0
Publications/Dissemination		6.0		6.0
Project Execution (OAS)		20.0	OAS 35.0	55.0
Supervision UNEP			UNEP 35.0	35.0
General Secretary/Project Manager	72.0			72.0
National Coordinator (5m)	90.0			90.0
Office and Operating Costs	61.0			61.0
5 Steering Group Meetings	20.0	20.0		40.0
Component 1b Public Participation, Education, Communication	**20.7**	**60.5**		**81.2**
National workshops	11.3	9.0		20.3
Validation seminar	9.4	23.5		32.9
Consultancies		17.0		17.0
Coordination (6m)		8.0		8.0
Travel[11]		3.0		3.0
Component 1c Information	**43.5**	**48.0**	**41.0**	**132.5**
Digital maps	24.0	25.0	Fonplata 25.0 AAAS 16.0	90.0
Information Center	16.5	15.0		31,5
Web page	3.0	8.0		11.0
Component 1d Prepation of Project Document		**29.0**		**29.0**
Technical Coordination (6m)		24.0		24.0
Travel		5.0		5.0

[10] The counterpart costs are calculated based upon support from the countries to the CIC and earmarked for support of the preparation of the project through personnel, infrastructure, and equipment, including institutional representation

[11] Travel includes costs of air fares and per diem

COSTS AND FINANCING
(In thousands in US $)

COMPONENT	Countries CIC	Recipient GEF	Other Agencies	TOTAL
ACTIVITY 2 HYDROLOGIC MODELING	**26.3**	**150.5**		**176.8**
Component 2 a International Workshop	**11.3**	**53.5**		**64.8**
International Seminar	11.3	23.5		34.8
Consultancies		30.0		30.0
Component 2 b Design Of the Forecasting and Hydrologic Management System	**15.0**	**97.0**		**112.0**
Model Development	15.0	82.0		97.0
Coordination (6m)		12.0		12.0
Travel		3.0		3.0
ACTIVITY 3 A COMMON VISION FOR THE BASIN	**49.1**	**274.1**	**50.0**	**373.2**
Component 3 a Strengthening the Vision	**24.5**	**87.1**	**25.0**	**136.6**
2 consultancies (6m)		40.0	WMO 25.0	65.0
National Workshops	11.3	16.0		27.3
International Seminar	13.2	31.1		44.3
Component 3 b Elaboration of the TDA	**5.6**	**60.0**	**25.0**	**90.6**
Consultancies (2 m)		25.0	WMO 25.0	50.0
International Seminar	5.6	20.0		25.6
Technical Coordination (3m)		12.0		12.0
Travel		3.0		3.0
ACTIVITY 4 PREPARATORY WORK FOR THE ELABORATION OF THE SAP FRAMEWORK	**47.2**	**294.7**	**50.0**	**391.9**
Component 4 a Institutional Development	**2.4**	**62.0**		**64.4**
Consultancies		8.0		8.0
1 Institutional Consultant	2.4	12.0		14.4
Technical Coordination (9m)		36.0		36.0
Travel		6.0		6.0
Component 4 b Management Strategy	**44.8**	**72.7**	**50.0**	**167.5**
National Meetings	11.3	9.0		20.3
Consultancies		17.0	WMO 50.0	67.0
International Seminar	13.2	31.7		44.9
Work Group Members	20.3	15.0		35.3

[12] The counterpart costs are calculated based upon support from the countries to the CIC and earmarked for support of the preparation of the project through personnel, infrastructure, and equipment, including institutional representation

COSTS AND FINANCING
(In thousands in US $)

ACTIVITY	COMPONENT	Countries CIC	Incremental GEF	Other Agencies	TOTAL
ACTIVITY 5	PILOT PROJECTS IN CRITICAL THEMATIC AREAS	26.4	27.0	100.0	153.4
	International consultancies			Fonplata25.0	25.0
	2 Project workshops	22.6	15.0		37.6
	Regional consultancies	3.8		Fonplata 75.0	78.8
	Coordination Assistance (6m)		12.0		12.0
Sub-total				Fonplata 155.0 WMO 100.0 UNEP 35.0 OAS 35.0 AAAS 16.0	
[illegible]	US$ thousands	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

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[13] The counterpart costs are calculated based upon support from the countries to the CIC and earmarked for support of the preparation of the project through personnel, infrastructure, and equipment, including institutional representation

GEF FOCAL POINT ENDORSEMENT LETTERS - FINANCIAL ENDORSEMENT LETTERS

A. ENDORSEMENT LETTER from CIC

Nota N° 99/03 S

Buenos Aires, 16 May 2003

De mi más distinguida consideración:

Con el mayor respeto y consideración me dirijo a Usted en conocimiento que en los próximos días el PNUMA presentará ante la Secretaría del GEF la solicitud de un PDF, Bloque B, destinado a preparar un ***"Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata y su relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático"***. En la oportunidad me ha parecido de interés destacar el importante esfuerzo que han realizado los 5 países firmantes del tratado de la Cuenca del Plata: Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay y Uruguay, así como esta Secretaría General del CIC para formular esta solicitud. Deseo asimismo reconocer el aporte que ya ha realizado el GEF, el PNUMA y la Secretaría General de la OEA, al financiar y ejecutar en beneficio de la Cuenca del Plata un PDF, Bloque A, que ha facilitado el proceso de consenso para llevar adelante un proyecto de amplio beneficio para la región, que será sin duda una experiencia de interés para la comunidad internacional global.

Los países de la Cuenca del Plata han sido pioneros en buscar formas de actuación conjunta y en acordar mecanismos de desarrollo basados en la utilización racional de los invalorables recursos naturales de esta enorme cuenca hidrográfica. Los ecosistemas de la Cuenca del Plata han dado soporte a las zonas de crecimiento económico y poblacional más dinámicas del continente sudamericano. En el CIC somos partícipes de un destino común de la región, cuyos países se han comprometido en la búsqueda de formas que impulsen un desarrollo sostenible, que eviten el deterioro de esa base de recursos naturales que le ha permitido alcanzar lo que actualmente es y que, hacia el futuro, le deberá permitir superar la pobreza en que aún subsisten altos porcentajes de la población. Para ello, en un mundo globalizado, el esfuerzo incremental de la comunidad internacional es imprescindible.

Me parece de interés informarle que la preparación de esta solicitud ha encontrado en los países una voluntad de acción excepcional, superior a la que no habíamos imaginado cuando iniciamos el proceso, hace ya más de un año. Este entusiasmo e interés no sólo no ha decaído, sino que se ha fortalecido y ha generado un efecto catalítico con la incorporación de nuevas iniciativas para la Cuenca, como la del Fondo para el Desarrollo de la Cuenca del Plata (FONPLATA), banco multinacional cuyo Directorio aprobó una importante cooperación técnica-financiera para acompañar la ejecución del PDF, Bloque B, antes de la aprobación que se le solicita al GEF; como el apoyo de la Organización Meteorológica Mundial (OMM), que ha aprobado la utilización de otra cooperación técnica para la preparación del Proyecto, con objeto de ayudarlo en la identificación de soluciones para temas críticos; como la del programa CLIVAR/VAMOS, que estudia el clima global, y que se ha comprometido en el proyecto para avanzar los estudios y la identificación de soluciones en la relación cambio climático y la hidrología, mediante sus miembros agrupados en el Programa PLATIN. Por otro lado hemos firmado recientemente en Japón, en el marco del 3er Foro Mundial del Agua, un entendimiento con la Comisión de la Cuenca del río Rin, a fin de intercambiar experiencias, lo cual constituye un esfuerzo pionero de hermandad de cuencas en el ámbito mundial.

No es exageración decir que el dinamismo alcanzado en la gestión del CIC en el último año está vinculado a la realidad que generó la preparación de esta solicitud de proyecto al GEF. Pero a la vez, ello tampoco hubiera sido posible si los Gobiernos de los cinco países no hubieran decidido fortalecer la capacidad del CIC, lo cual ha sido una realidad a partir de diciembre de 2001 en que se creó la Unidad de Proyectos del Sistema de la Cuenca del Plata, como su cuerpo técnico de trabajo. Ha sido muy alentador ver que este mecanismo ha venido funcionando desde entonces en reuniones periódicas y con trabajos concretos financiados enteramente por los esfuerzos nacionales de los países. Asimismo la sociedad civil se organiza en la cuenca para participar activamente en su gestión y ello ha permitido incluir en el proyecto una iniciativa como la de la Red de Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata (RIGA), fruto de estos esfuerzos sociales.

Por su trascendencia mundial, seguramente usted conoce que hoy aflige a la región grandes inundaciones en la cuenca del río Paraná, principal río del sistema hídrico de la Cuenca del Plata. Nuevamente miles de personas han sido evacuadas, el número de muertes asciende a más de 60 y las pérdidas en la economía son cuantiosas. El impacto negativo hubiera sido menor si las áreas de expansión natural de los ríos, los humedales reguladores y la vegetación protectora no hubieran sido afectados en el avance de los asentamientos humanos y de la producción agrícola, en zonas no aptas para ello. El proyecto propuesto facilita a los países avanzar en temas tan importantes como éstos, donde el destino del hombre y la naturaleza van particularmente juntos.

Por estos motivos me he permitido llegar a usted en esta oportunidad y trasmitirle algo de la expectativa con que los países y este organismo ven la solicitud presentada. Le agradezco su atención a mi interés y al Proyecto, que no es más que el interés presentado al GEF por los cinco países que forman parte del CIC, que ha sido ratificado por los correspondientes Puntos Focales de ese Fondo Mundial.

Sin más me pongo a disposición de ustedes y del PNUMA para eventuales aclaraciones, y le expreso mis sinceros saludos y el compromiso del CIC en cumplir con lo indicado en el documento de solicitud de proyecto.

Sinceramente,

Dr. Hugo Sainz Trigo
Secretario General del CIC

A: Mohamed T. El-Ashery
Chief, Executive Officer and Chairman of the Global Environment Facility-GEF
1776 G StreetN.W. Room G 6005
Washington D.C. 20433
USA

C/C: Klaus Toepher (PNUMA)
Isabelle Van der Beck (PNUMA)
Alfred Duda (Secretaría del GEF)
Andrea Merla (Secretaría del GEF)
Richard Meganck (OEA)

Note Nr. 99/03 S

Buenos Aires, May 16th. 2003

Dear Sir,

With the greater respect and consideration I'm contactingyou in knowledge that next days PNUMA will present to the Secretary of GEF the proposal of a PDF, Block B, applied to prepare a "Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with Respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change". In the opportunity it has seemed of interest to me to emphasize the important effort that the 5 countries signatory of the treaty of the la Plata River Basin has made: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, as well as this General Secretariat of the CIC to formulate this proposal. I also wish to recognize the contribution that already has made the GEF, the PNUMA and the General Secretariat of the O.A.S., when financing and executing in benefit of the la Plata River Basin a PDF, Block A, that has facilitated the consensus process to take ahead a project of extended benefit for the region, that,no doubt will be a experience of interest for the global international community.

The countries of the la Plata River Basin has been pioneering in looking ways of joint performance and according mechanisms of development based on the rational use of the invaluable natural resources of this enormous hydrographic river basin. The ecosystems of the la Plata River Basin have given supportedto the zones of economic and population growth more dynamics of the South American continent. In CIC we are partaker of a common destiny of the region, whose countries are involved in the search of ways that propel a sustainable development, that avoids the deterioration of that base of natural resources that has allowed them to reach what it actually is and that, towards the future, will allow them to overcome the poverty in which high percentage of the population even subsist. To reach this, in a globalized world, the incremental effort of the international community is essential.

It seems interesting to me to inform you that the preparation of this proposal has found in the countries a will of exceptional action, higher to the one we have imagined when we initiated the process, more than a year ago. This enthusiasm and interest not only don't have declined, but havebeen fortified and have generated a catalytic effect with the incorporation of new initiatives for the River Basin, like the one of the Fondo para el Desarrollo de la Cuenca del Plata (FONPLATA), multinational bank whose Directory approved an important technical-financial cooperation to accompany the execution of the PDF, Block B, before the approval that we're asking to GEF; as well as the support of the Water Meteorological Organization (WMO), that has approved the utilization of another technical cooperation for the preparation of the Project, with the purpose to help it in the identification of solutions for critical subjects; like the one of the program CLIVAR/VAMOS, that studies the global climate, and that had committed itself in the project to advance the studies and the identification of solutions in relation to the climate change and the hydrology, by means of its members grouped in the PLATIN Program. On the other hand we have recently signed in Japan, within the framework of the 3rd. World Water Forum, a Declaration of Intent with the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, in order to interchange experiences, which constitutes a pioneering effort of brotherhood of river basins in the world ambit.

It is not an exaggeration to say that the dynamism reached in the management of the CIC in the last year is linked to the reality that generates the preparation of this proposal of project to GEF. But simultaneously, it had not been possible either if the Governments of the five countries had not decided to fortify the capacity of the CIC, which has been a reality as of December of 2001 in which the Unit of Projects of the System of the la Plata River Basin was created, as well as its technical unit of work. It has been very encouraging to see that this mechanism has been working since then in periodical meetings and with concrete works financed entirely by the national efforts of the countries. Also the civil society organizes itself in the river basin to participate actively in its management and this has allowed including in the project an initiative

like the one of the Network of Hydrological Resources of the la Plata River Basin (RIGA), product of these social efforts.

By its world-wide importance, surely you know that actually the region is afflictedwith great floods in the Paraná River Basin, main river of the hydrologicalsystem of the la Plata River Basin. Again thousands of people have been evacuated, the number of deaths ascends to more than 60 and losses in economy are considerable. The negative impact would have been smaller if the natural expansion areas of the rivers, the controlling wetlands and the protective vegetation had not been affected in the advance of the human settlement and the agricultural production, in areas unsuitable for it. The proposed project facilitates the countries to advance in as important subjects as these, where the destiny of men and nature go particularly together.

For these reasons I have allowed myself to come to you in this opportunity and to transfer you some of the expectation whereupon countries and this organization visualize the presented proposal. I appreciate your attention to my interest and to the Project that is not but that the interest displayed to GEF by the five countries, which are involved in the CIC, which has been ratified by the corresponding Focal Points of that World Fund.

Without further ado I put myself at your and PNUMA disposal for possible explanations, and I express you my sincere greetings and the commitment of the CIC in fulfilling what's indicated in the document of project proposal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hugo Sainz Trigo
Secretary General del CIC

To: Mohamed T. El-Ashery
Chief, Executive Officer and Chairman of the Global Environment Facility-GEF
1776 G Street N.W. Room G 6005
Washington D.C. 20433
USA

C/C: Klaus Toepher (PNUMA)
Isabelle Van der Beck (PNUMA)
Alfred Duda (Secretaría del GEF)
Andrea Merla (Secretaría del GEF)
Richard Meganck (OEA)

ARGENTINA

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores,
Comercio Internacional y Culto

LETRA: CICCP
NRO.: 07/03

Buenos Aires, 26 de marzo de 2003

SEÑOR SECRETARIO GENERAL:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted con relación al proyecto GEF/PNUMA/OEA/CIC, "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático" (Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata), para el cual se ha solicitado una donación PDF, Bloque B al Fondo Mundial para el Medio Ambiente (GEF).

Al respecto, cumplo en informarle que el Gobierno argentino, a través de su Punto Focal en el GEF, ha endosado dicha solicitud ante la Secretaría del GEF.

Asimismo, se ha cursado una comunicación al Director Ejecutivo del PNUMA, Sr. Klaus Toepfer, poniéndole en conocimiento que la Argentina ha efectivizado el correspondiente endoso del mencionado proyecto "Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata".

Sin otro particular, hago propicia la oportunidad para saludar a usted con más distinguida consideración.

MTRO. FERNANDO NOVILLO SARAVIA
REPRESENTANTE POLITICO TITULAR ANTE EL CIC

Secretaría Ejecutiva del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 26/3/03
Nº de Entrada: 58
Carpeta: –

END AR

Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación
Viceministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Dirección General de Clasificación de Tierras y Cuencas

La Paz, enero 6 de 2003
MDSP/VMARNDF/DGCTC No. 004/2003

Señor
Klaus Toepfer
DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO DEL PNUMA
Nairobi-Kenia

De mi consideración:

Mediante la presente, tengo a bien informar a usted que el Ing. Carlos Zamora P., Director General de Clasificación de Tierras y Cuencas del Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación en coordinación con la Lic. Miriam Orellana, Directora del tratado de Cooperación Amazónica y Cuenca del Plata del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto, han ratificado los Puntos Focales Nacionales Político y Técnico, que harán el seguimiento del proyecto "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata", los cuales son:

- Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto
  Viceministerio de Relaciones Económicas Internacionales e Integración
  Dirección del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica y Cuenca del Plata
- Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación
  Viceministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos naturales
  Dirección General de Clasificación de Tierras y Cuencas

Asimismo, los Ministerios y puntos focales antes mencionados, oficialmente mediante la presente comunicación dan su conformidad y apoyo a la solicitud de aprobación del PDF-Bloque B para la elaboración de un "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata".

Sin otro particular me despido de usted atentamente.

Ing. Carlos Alberto Zamora Pizarro
DIRECTOR GENERAL DE CLASIFICACION DE TIERRAS Y CUENCAS
Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

c.c. Min. RR.EE. .. Archivo
CAZ/ga

Av. Mariscal Santa Cruz No. 1092, Edif. EX COMIBOL, 7°. Piso, Tel.Fax: 2312475 La Paz-Bolivia

END^c BOL

SECRETARÍA DEL AMBIENTE

Asunción, 9 de enero de 2003

SEAM Nº 38/03

Señor
Klaus Toepfer
Director Ejecutivo del PNUMA
Nairobi, Kenya

De mi consideración

Tengo el agrado de informar a usted que esta Secretaría, en su condición de Punto Focal Operativo en Paraguay del Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMAM), endosa la solicitud de fondos de asistencia para la preparación del Proyecto: **Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático (Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata)**, propuesto por el Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los Países de la Cuenca del Plata (CIC). El monto total del proyecto asciende a la suma de US$ 1.508.800, de los cuales US$ 700.000 son solicitados al FMAM y 808.800 serán cofinanciados por los países involucrados y por otras agencias.

Sinceramente

Miguel Angel Paredes Fassino
Secretario Ejecutivo - Ministro

END PAR

Secretaría General del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 24/1/03
Nº de Entrada: 07
Carpeta: [illegible]

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Asunción - Paraguay

FORMULARIO PARA TRANSMISION VIA FAX

VMREI/DGNEIF/DCPNF/FAX Nº 006/03 **NRO. DE FAX: 54 11 4312 2506**

PARA : **Doctor HUGO SAINZ TRIGO**
Secretario General del CIC

DE : **Embajador RIGOBERTO GAUTO VIELMAN**
Viceministro de Relaciones Económicas e Integración

DIRECCION/CIUDAD: Buenos Aires **PAIS:** Argentina

FECHA: 13/01/02 **CANT. DE PAG:** **AUTORIZACION:**

MENSAJE

Señor Secretario General:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted con el objeto de remitir adjunto a la presente, para conocimiento y fines pertinentes, la nota SEAM Nº 38/03 de fecha 9 de enero de 2003, referente al aval del punto focal operativo a la solicitud de fondos de asistencia para la preparación del Proyecto ***"Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático (Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata)"***.

Sin otro particular, hago propicia la oportunidad para renovarle las seguridades de mi distinguida consideración.

RIGOBERTO GAUTO
Viceministro de Relaciones Económicas e Integración

Secretaría General del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 14/1/03
Nº de Entrada: 07
Carpeta: [illegible]

EDIF. AYFRA, PTE. FRANCO ESQ. AYOLAS 6o. PISO, TELEF: (595 21) 494.473 (CENTRAL) TELEX 44043 FAX (595 21) 441.115

END° PAR

URUGUAY

MINISTERIO DE VIVIENDA ORDENAMIENTO TERRITORIAL Y MEDIO AMBIENTE
DI.NA.MA.

Montevideo, 4 de febrero de 2003.

Sr. Klaus Toepfer
Director Ejecutivo del PNUMA
Nairobi, Kenia.

De mi mayor consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Ud. con relación al proyecto "Preparación de un Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata y su Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climáticos (Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata)", a ser implementado por el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente y ejecutado por el Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los Países de la referida Cuenca, entre los cuales se encuentra el nuestro.

La citada propuesta permitirá la elaboración de un programa regional de vasto alcance, que reunirá diversos esfuerzos para asistir a los países que integran la mencionada Cuenca, en el diseño y establecimiento de políticas, medidas y acciones colectivas y coordinadas, en favor de un desarrollo económico y social ambientalmente sostenible, basadas en la protección y gestión integrada de los recursos hídricos y en la adaptación a la variabilidad y al cambio climático.

De acuerdo a lo que antecede y tomando también en cuenta que a través de la ejecución de la iniciativa presentada se obtendrían importantes beneficios económicos, sociales y ambientales, tanto para nuestro país como para los restantes que integran la mencionada la Cuenca, se estima de particular interés apoyar a la misma la referida propuesta.

Sin otro particular saluda a Ud. muy atentamente,

Ing. Luis A. Santos
Punto Focal Operacional del FMAM

END. URU

BRAZIL

MINISTRY OF PLANNING, BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT
SECRETARIAT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Ofício nº 532/02 - MP

Brasília, 20 de dezembro de 2002

Senhor Secretário,

Tenho o prazer de informar a V.Se. que esta Secretaria, na qualidade de Ponto Focal Operacional do GEF no Brasil, comunicou ao PNUMA (cópia anexa) o seu endosso ao pedido de assistência preparatória ao projeto *Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático (Programa Marco para la Cuenca del Plata)*, a ser executado pelo Comitê Intergovernamental Coordenador dos Países da Bacia do Prata (CIC), em conjunto com essa Secretaria.

2. Permita-me ressaltar que as atividades em relação à variabilidade e mudança climáticas a serem executadas no âmbito do projeto deverão estar em consonância com as políticas e prioridades do Governo brasileiro para a área.

Atenciosamente,

DANTE CORLHO DE UMA
Secretário de Assuntos Internacionais

Ao Senhor
RAYMUNDO JOSÉ SANTOS GARRIDO
Secretário de Recursos Hídricos do
Ministério do Meio Ambiente
SGAN – Quadra 601 – Lote 01
70.830 – 901 Brasília - DF

Secretaría General del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 06/01/03
Nº de Entrada: 152
Carpeta: convoc.

END: BRA

CIC

COMITE INTERGUBERNAMENTAL COORDINADOR
DE LOS PAISES DE LA CUENCA DEL PLATA (CIC)

ARGENTINA - BOLIVIA - BRASIL - PARAGUAY - URUGUAY

PARAGUAY 765 – 2° PISO
(1057) BUENOS AIRES
INTERNET: http://www.cicplata.org.ar

TEL.: 4312-2506
TELFAX: 4312-2272
E-MAIL: secretariacicplata@fibertel.com.ar

Note Nr. 58/03 S

Buenos Aires, March 20th, 2003

Dear Sir,

The Secretary General of the Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee for the la Plata Basin (CIC) has the honour to inform you that this General Secretariat has participated actively in the formulation of a proposal for project development and preparation facility (pdf) block "B" Grant, assigned to the Preparation of a Framework for the Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin, with respect to the Hydrological Effects of Climatic Variability and Change (A Framework Strategic Action Program for the la Plata Basin).

In order to execute the tasks that the Project requires, this General Secretariat has the capacity to do the indicated contributions of time of its staff equivalent to u$s 17,880, corresponding to the twenty five per cent (25%) of the time of the CIC's staff.

I take the advantage of this opportunity to express you my best regards,

Dr Hugo Sainz Trigo
Secretary General of the CIC

Mr. Klaus Toepfer
Executive Director of PNUMA

CC: Mrs. Isabelle Vanderbeck, PNUMA
Mr. Jorge Rucks, O.A.S.

FIN ENDE CIC

COMITE INTERGUBERNAMENTAL COORDINADOR DE LOS PAISES DE LA CUENCA DEL PLATA (CIC)

ARGENTINA - BOLIVIA - BRASIL - PARAGUAY - URUGUAY

PARAGUAY 756 – 2° PISO
(1057) BUENOS AIRES
INTERNET: http/www.cicplata.org.ar

TEL.: 4312-2606
TELFAX: 4312-2272
E-MAIL: secretariacicplata@fibertel.com.ar

Nota N° 58/03 S

Buenos Aires, 12 de marzo de 2003

Estimado Señor Director:

El Secretario General del Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los Países de la Cuenca del Plata (CIC) tiene el agrado de presentar a Usted sus atentos saludos para informarle que esta Secretaría General ha participado activamente en la formulación de la solicitud de un Fondo para la Preparación del Proyecto (PDF), Bloque B, destinado a preparar un "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático".

A fin de la ejecución de los trabajos que el Proyecto requiere, esta Secretaría General tiene la capacidad de hacer los aportes indicados de tiempo de su personal equivalentes a U$S 17.880, correspondientes al 25% del tiempo del personal del CIC.

Con este motivo el Secretario General del CIC reitera a Usted las seguridades de su más alta y distinguida consideración.

Dr. Hugo Sainz Trigo
Secretario General del CIC

Señor Klaus Toepfer
Director Ejecutivo del PNUMA

CC: Sra. Isabelle Van der Beck, PNUMA
Sr. Jorge Ruoko, OEA

FIN. END° CIC

ARGENTINA

Presidencia de la Nación
Secretaría de Obras Públicas
Subsecretaría de Recursos Hídricos

NOTA SSRH Nº 953 /03

BUENOS AIRES, 22 ABR 2003

De mi mayor consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted con el objeto de informar que esta Subsecretaría ha participado activamente en la formulación de la solicitud de un Fondo para Preparación de Proyectos (PDF), Bloque B, destinado a preparar un "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático".

A fin de la ejecución de los trabajos que el proyecto requiere, el Gobierno de Argentina, tiene la capacidad técnica necesaria y se compromete a aportar el equivalente a u$s. 90.000 en tiempos de personal técnico y de apoyo así como facilitar instalaciones y equipamiento, de acuerdo con lo propuesto en la Tabla de Costos y Financiamiento Anexo VII (versión en inglés) del referido Documento de Proyecto para un Programa Marco de la Cuenca del Plata.

Sin otro particular saluda a usted muy atentamente.

cc. Isabelle Van der Beck,PNUMA
Jorge Rucks, OEA
Secretaría General del CIC

Ing. Hugo Amicarelli
Representante Titular Técnico ante el CIC

FIN ENDE AR

AL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO
PNUMA
Sr. KLAUS TOEPFER
S_____/_____D

BOLIVIA

MINISTERIO DE DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE
VICEMINISTERIO DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y MEDIO AMBIENTE
DIRECCION GENERAL DE CUENCAS Y RECURSOS HIDRICOS

TRANSMITE FAX Nº : 002/2003
FAX DESTINO : 054-11-43122272
FAX ORIGEN : (591-2) 2312475
TOTAL PAGINAS : 2 (incluyendo esta)
FECHA : La Paz, Abril 2, 2003

A : Dr. Hugo Sainz Tirgo.
SECRETARIO GENERAL DEL CIC

De : Ing. Carlos Alberto Zamora Piñeiro.
VICEMINISTRO DE RECURSOS NATURALES Y MEDIO AMBIENTE a.i.

Ref. : Solicitud Nota PNUMA

Mi muy estimado Hugo:

Mediante la presente, tengo a bien comunicarle que de acuerdo a solicitud realizada por su persona para enviar una nota, comprometiendo la contraparte nacional al Proyecto Programa Marco para la gestión sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, al Sr. Klaus Toepfer, Director Ejecutivo del PNUMA se ha coordinado con la Cancillería la elaboración de la nota, misma que se adjunta a la presente.

Asimismo, en lo que se refiere al Convenio con la Fundación PROTEGER es criterio de este Despacho que el mismo será de beneficio para el desarrollo de las actividades del CIC, por lo que damos nuestra conformidad para la firma del mismo.

Sin otro particular, me despido con un fuerte abrazo y las consideraciones más distinguidas.

Atentamente,

Ing. Carlos Alberto Zamora Piñeiro
VICEMINISTRO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES a.i.
Min. Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

Secretaría General del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 3/4/03
Nº de Entrada: 64
Carpeta: -

FIN END^{t} BOL

REPUBLICA DE BOLIVIA

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO

La Paz, 20 de marzo de 2003
VREI- DGIN - DCP- 018/2003

Al señor
D. Klaus Toepfer
DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO DEL PNUMA

Señor Director Ejecutivo:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted, con el objeto de poner en su conocimiento, que el Despacho a mi cargo, Viceministerio de Relaciones Económicas Internacionales e Integración dependiente del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto de Bolivia, y en mi calidad de Representante Titular Político ante el Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los Países de la Cuenca del Plata (CIC), participó activamente en la formulación de la solicitud de un Fondo para la preparación de Proyectos (PDF) Riopma B. destinado a presentar un "PROGRAMA MARCO DE GESTION SOSTENIBLE DE LOS RECURSOS HIDRICOS DE LA CUENCA DEL PLATA, RELACION CON LA VARIABILIDAD Y EL CAMBIO CLIMATICO"

Sobre el particular, el Gobierno de la República de Bolivia tiene la capacidad necesaria y se compromete a aportar el equivalente a US$90.000 en tiempos de personal diplomático, técnico y de apoyo así como facilitar instalaciones y equipamiento de acuerdo a los propuesto en la Tabla de costos y Financiamiento Anexo VII (versión en inglés) del Proyecto.

Con este motivo, me permito renovar al señor Director Ejecutivo las seguridades de mi distinguida consideración.

Alfredo Seoane Flores
VICEMINISTRO DE RELACIONES ECONOMICAS INTERNACIONALES E INTEGRACION
MIN. DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO

FIN END^{E} BOL

PARAGUAY

Embajada del Paraguay
Buenos Aires - Rca. Argentina

Buenos Aires, 15 de abril de 2003.

EP/ARG 4 Nº 57/03

Señor Director Ejecutivo:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Usted con el objeto de comunicar que ésta Cancillería ha participado activamente en la formulación de la solicitud de un Fondo para Preparación de Proyectos (PDF), Bloque B, destinado a preparar un "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático".

Al respecto, considerando la ejecución de los trabajos que el proyecto requiere, el Gobierno de la República del Paraguay, tiene la capacidad técnica necesaria y se compromete a aportar el equivalente a US$ 90.000 (noventa mil dólares) en tiempos de personal diplomático, técnico y de apoyo de conformidad con lo propuesto en la Tabla de Costos y Financiamiento Anexo VII (versión en inglés) del referido Documento de Proyectos para un Programa Marco de la Cuenca del Plata.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para reiterar al Señor Director, las seguridades de mi más distinguida consideración.

EMBAJADA DE LA REPÚBLICA DEL PARAGUAY - ARGENTINA

HORACIO NOGUES ZUBIZARRETA
Embajador
Representante Titular del Paraguay ante el CIC.

Al Señor
KLAUS TOEPFER
Director Ejecutivo, PNUMA

Secretaría General del C.I.C.
Recibido el: 15/4/03
Nº de Entrada: 71
Carpeta: 7

c.c. Isabelle Van Der Beck, PNUMA
Jorge Rucks, OEA
Hugo Sainz Trigo, CIC.

FIN ENDE PAR

URUGUAY

Montevideo, 25 de marzo de 2003.-

Señor
Director Ejecutivo, PNUMA
Klaus Toepfer
Presente

De mi mayor consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted con el objeto de informar que este Ministerio ha participado activamente en la formulación de la solicitud de un Fondo para Preparación de Proyectos (PDF), Bloque B, destinado a preparar un "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sostenible de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata, Relación con la Variabilidad y el Cambio Climático".

A fin de la ejecución de los trabajos que el proyecto requiere, el Gobierno de Uruguay, tiene la capacidad técnica necesaria y se compromete a aportar el equivalente a US$ 90.000 en tiempos de personal diplomático, técnico y de apoyo, así como facilitar instalaciones y equipamiento, de acuerdo con lo propuesto en la Tabla de Costos y Financiamiento Anexo VII (versión en inglés) del referido Documento de Proyecto para un Programa Marco de la Cuenca del Plata.

Sin otro particular, saluda a usted atentamente.-

Ing. Luis E. Loureiro
Representante Titular Técnico ante el CIC

CC: Isabelle Van der Beck, PNUMA
Jorge Rucks, OEA
Hugo Balnz Trigo, Secretaría General del CIC

Rincón 575 – CP 11.000
Montevideo – Uruguay

Teléfonos (598 2) 915 47 85 – 84 Fax 916 46 87
E-mail dnh@adinet.com.uy

FIN ENDE URU.

El Embajador del Brasil

Buenos Aires, em 13 de maio de 2003.

Senhor
Klaus Toepfer
Diretor-Executivo do PNUMA

Prezado Senhor,

Tenho o prazer de dirigir-me a Vossa Senhoria com o objetivo de informar que o Governo do Brasil vem participando ativamente da formulação da solicitação de um Fundo para a Preparação de Projetos (PDF), Bloco B, destinado a preparar um "Programa Marco para a Gestão Sustentável dos Recursos Hídricos da Bacia do Prata, Relação com a Variabilidade e Mudanças Climáticas".

Com a finalidade de executar os trabalhos que o projeto requer, o Governo do Brasil dispõe da capacidade técnica necessária, comprometendo-se a aportar o equivalente a US$ 90.000,00 (noventa mil dólares) em tempo de pessoal diplomático, técnico e de apoio, assim como disponibilizar instalações e equipamentos, de acordo com o orçamento constante na Tabela de Custos e Financiamento - Anexo VII (versão em inglês) do referido Documento de Projeto para um Programa Marco da Bacia do Prata.

Sendo o que se faz necessário para o momento, subscrevo-me.

Atenciosamente,

p/ (José Botafogo Gonçalves)
Representante Titular do Brasil junto ao CIC

FIN ENDt BRA

CIC – FONPLATA AGREEMENT (US$ 155,000)

FONDO FINANCIERO PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA CUENCA [illegible] PLATA
108ª REUNION DEL DIRECTORIO EJECUTIVO - CONTINUACIÓN
27 al 28 de enero de 2003
Santa Cruz - Bolivia

R.D. 108ª-1007/2003

RESOLUCIÓN Nº 1007

OPERACIÓN DE COOPERACIÓN [illegible] NO REEMBOLSABLE AL COMITÉ INTERGUBERNAMENTAL COORDINADOR DESTINADA A COFINANCIAR [illegible] EL FINANCIAMIENTO DE LA PREPARACIÓN DEL PROGRAMA MARCO PARA LA GESTIÓN SOSTENIBLE DE LOS RECURSOS HÍDRICOS DE LA CUENCA DEL PLATA

EL DIRECTORIO EJECUTIVO,

VISTO: El Reglamento; la Política de Cooperación Técnica y el Documento SE/DT-108ª- 1037/2002 (Rev.1).

CONSIDERANDO:

Que de conformidad con lo dispuesto en el Reglamento, el Directorio Ejecutivo tiene la facultad de formular, aprobar y modificar las normas que regirán para las operaciones que realice el Fondo.

Que la Política de Cooperación Técnica aprobada por el Directorio Ejecutivo [illegible] que se han cumplido todos los extremos previstos en ésta misma para operaciones de tal naturaleza.

ATENTO: A la opinión de la Asesoría Legal;

Secretaría General del C.I.C
Recibido el: 29/1/03
Nº de Entrada: 19
Carpeta: [illegible]

RESUELVE

Autorizar al Presidente del Directorio Ejecutivo del Fondo Financiero para el Desarrollo de la Cuenca del Plata - FONPLATA -, o al Director Ejecutivo Titular que el designe, para que, en nombre y representación de FONPLATA, proceda a formalizar el convenio de las convenios de cooperación técnica con el Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador que sean necesarios para otorgar un financiamiento no reembolsable a la ejecución del "Programa Marco para la Gestión Sustentable de los Recursos Hídricos de la Cuenca del Plata".

Este financiamiento se sujetará básicamente a las siguientes condiciones:

1. Beneficiario

El Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los países de la Cuenca del Plata.

2. Organismo Ejecutor

El Comité Intergubernamental Coordinador de los países de la Cuenca del Plata.

3. Condiciones de la Cooperación Técnica

La Cooperación Técnica estará sujeta a las siguientes condiciones:

3.1. Modalidad de la Cooperación

La Cooperación Técnica será de carácter No Reembolsable.

3.2. Monto

Hasta el equivalente a US$ 155.000 (ciento cincuenta y cinco mil dólares estadounidenses).

3.3. Moneda

Dólares estadounidenses

3.4. Fuente de Recursos

Los recursos propios de FONPLATA.

3.5. Plazo para la Iniciación de las actividades de la Cooperación Técnica

La iniciación de las actividades deberá materializarse dentro del plazo de un (1) año, a partir de la fecha de aprobación del Convenio de Cooperación Técnica. Se entenderá por fecha de "iniciación", aquella en que el Organismo Ejecutor haya dado comienzo efectivo a las actividades de Fortalecimiento Institucional del CIC, hecho que será debidamente notificado a FONPLATA. Si las actividades no se inician dentro del plazo antes previsto la Cooperación quedará sin efecto de pleno derecho.

3.6. Plazo de Ejecución de las actividades de la Cooperación Técnica

El tiempo estimado para la ejecución de las actividades financiadas será de dieciocho (18) meses, a contar de la fecha de su "iniciación".

3.7. Plazo para Desembolsos

Los recursos de la Cooperación Técnica deberán desembolsarse totalmente dentro del plazo de dieciocho (18) meses, contados a partir de la fecha de aprobación del Convenio de Cooperación Técnica.

4. Condiciones Especiales

El Convenio de Cooperación Técnica establecerá cláusulas destinadas a asegurar:

4.1. Que FONPLATA se abstendrá de desembolsar recursos de la Cooperación Técnica cuando, a su juicio, la adquisición de bienes, la contratación de obras o servicios, no se ajuste a las condiciones convenidas.

4.2. Que el Beneficiario aportará oportunamente, a través de los demás organismos e instituciones participantes del programa un equivalente a novecientos veintiocho mil dólares estadounidenses (US$ 928.000)

4.3. Que el Organismo Ejecutor presente a FONPLATA informes sobre la ejecución del programa, con la periodicidad que FONPLATA determine.

4.4. Que se deje expresa constancia, en el Convenio de Cooperación Técnica que el Organismo Ejecutor tiene capacidad técnica, legal y financiera para llevar a cabo tal.

4.5. Que el Organismo Ejecutor presente a FONPLATA, dentro de los noventa (90) días calendario a contar de la fecha del último desembolso de la Cooperación Técnica, una justificación detallada de los gastos efectuados con cargo a la misma.

5. Fondo Operacional

El Organismo Ejecutor podrá solicitar la constitución de un Fondo Operacional para financiar los gastos relacionados con la actividad "Fortalecimiento de la Capacidad del CIC" el cual no excederá al 20 % del monto previsto para la misma.

6. [illegible] del Convenio de Cooperación

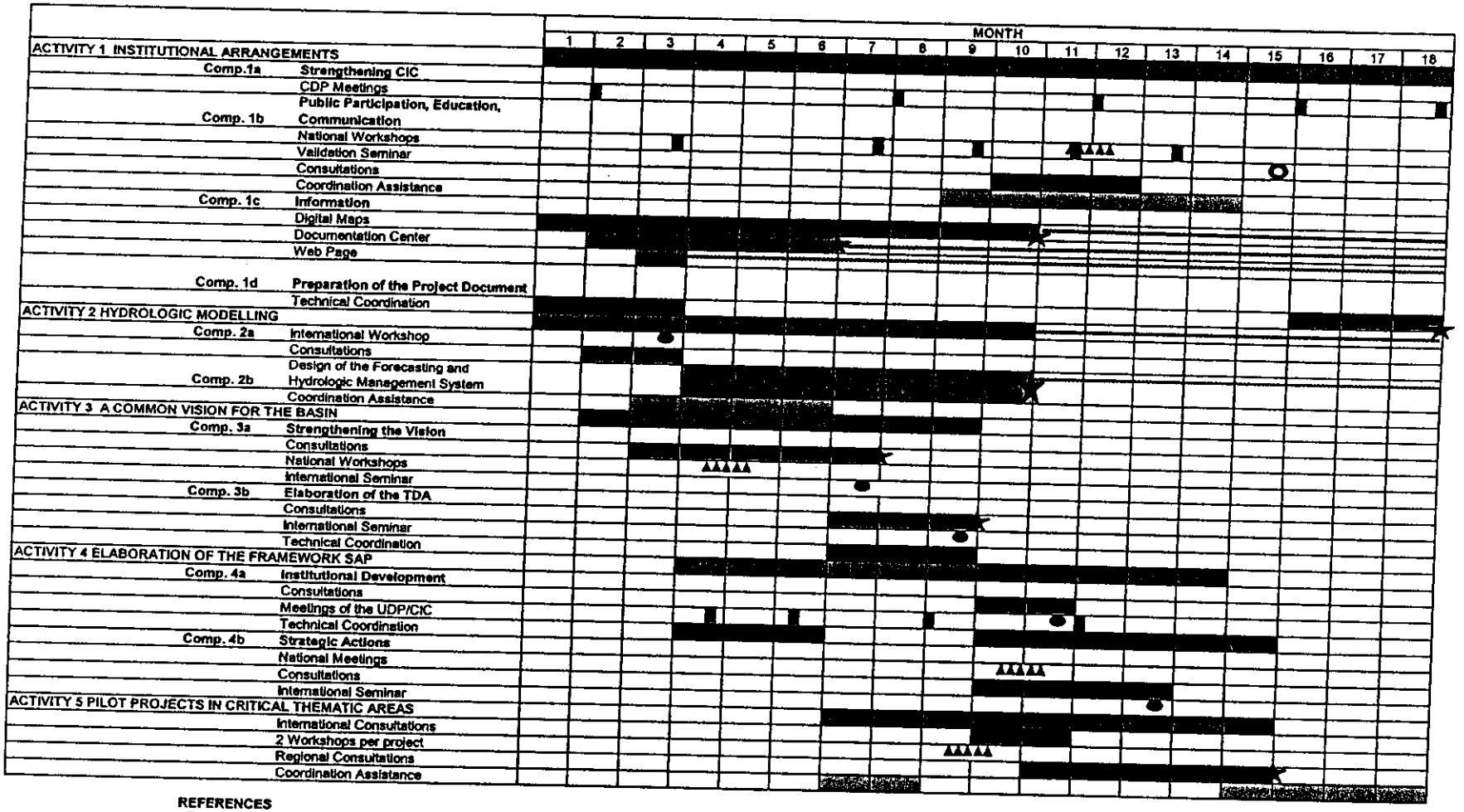
El Beneficiario, antes de la suscripción del Convenio de Cooperación Técnica informará a FONPLATA acerca de la representación para la suscripción del mismo.

7. Plazo para la Suscripción del Convenio de Cooperación

La suscripción del Convenio de Cooperación deberá formalizarse dentro del plazo de ciento ochenta (180) días calendario, contado a partir de la notificación al Beneficiario de esta Resolución.

Santa cruz, 28 de enero de 2003

ANNEX X - DETAILED CHRONOGRAM FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PROJECT PHASE I (PDF-B)



REFERENCES

- International Meetings
- National Workshops
- Opportunities for Public Participation
- Meetings of the CDP and UDP/CIC
- Products
- Final Meetings for the Validation of the Project

World Bank's Comments to UNEP

Lisa Masila
2003/05/26 02:11 PM

To: Isabelle Vanderbeck/UNEP/NBO/UNO@UNON, Vladimir Mamaev/UNEP/NBO/UNO@UNON, Marie Prchalova/UNEP/NBO/UNO@UNON, Takehiro Nakamura/UNEP/NBO/UNO@UNON
cc:
Subject: WORLD BANK'S COMMENTS TO UNEP

tbradley@worldbank.org
05/23/03 06:28 PM

To: "gefprojects" <gefprojects@unep.org>
cc: Gcoordination@Thegef.Org, Undpgef@Undp.Org, Wbgefoperations@worldbank.org, Kkemper@worldbank.org, Mbraga@worldbank.org, Mhatziolos@worldbank.org, Cbrandon@worldbank.org, Lazevedo@worldbank.org, Jgaviria@worldbank.org, Kshepardson@worldbank.org, tbradley@worldbank.org, Misaac@worldbank.org
Subject: WORLD BANK'S COMMENTS TO UNEP

Please find below comments from the World Bank for the above-mentioned project:

We welcome the project and would like to express our appreciation for the opportunity at the 2001 Plata Basin meeting to consult with the project's proponents. The project has evolved along the lines that were outlined at that point. The general take of the project is similar to the Guarani Project with a mixture of baseline data, assessments, and communication, and a definition of Hot Spots.

Given our experiences with the Guarani Project, we would recommend that as project prepartion progresses, that the designers take particular care in adopting a feasible, streamlined approach, given the size and issues found in this large basin. A project with too many small activities rather than with focus on the big picture would not likely produce the desired impact. In the project design it would also be very useful to include economic considerations in the choice of future project interventions, especially in the Hot Spots.

With kind regards,

Theresa

World Bank's Comments to UNEP

The Comments of the World Bank are very supportive of the project and UNEP is appreciative of the experience sharing. Their concerns have been shared with the project design team (UNEP - OAS – CIC – Riparan countries) and will be addressed during the project design period.

GEF SECRETARIAT CONCEPT AGREEMENT REVIEW

Country/Region : Regional (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay)

Project Title : Formulation of a Water Resources Management Framework of the Plata River Basin

GEFSEC Project ID : 2095

Operational Program : 9 **Implementing Agenc(ies) :** UNEP

Anticipated project financing ($ million) : PDF $ 0.70 GEF Project Allocation $ 15.00 Total Project Cost : 38.70

Scheduled Project Review Dt : 06/04/2003 **Target Work Program Date :**

Program Manager : Andrea Merla **IA Contact Person :** Ahmed Djoghlaf

Summary

The general objective of the project is to strengthen the efforts of the governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Paraguay and Uruguay to implement their shared vision for the environmentally and socially sustainable economic development of the la Plata Basin, specifically in the areas of the protection and integrated management of its water resources and adaptation to climatic change and variability. Co-ordinated and locally executed by the CIC, the project, which represents the first phase of a possibly multi-phase effort, will harmonise and prepare, in co-operation with the Basin countries, a programme of strategic actions for the sustainable management of the la Plata Basin.

The project will also represent a mechanism to coordinate and integrate the ongoing GEF supported efforts in portions of the absin (Bermejo, Pantanal, Plata Estuary, Guarani), enhancing replicability and sustainability of single succesful outcomes.

Expected Outputs

PIPELINE ENTRY

1. COUNTRY OWNERSHIP

Country Eligibility:

Country Drivnness:

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Endorsement :

Expected at Work Program inclusion: *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

2. PROGRAM AND POLICY CONFORMITY

Program Designation and Conformity

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Project Design

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Sustainability (including financial sustainability)

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Replicability:

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Stakeholder Involvement:

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Monitoring and Evaluation:

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

3. FINANCING

Financing Plan

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Implementing Agency Fees

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

4. INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

Core Commitments and Linkages

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Consultation, Coordination, Collaboration between IAs, and IAs and EAs, if appropriate

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

5. RESPONSE TO REVIEWS

Council

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Convention Secretariat

At pipeline entry: *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

GEF Secretariat

At pipeline entry: | *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* | *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Other IAs and RDBs

At pipeline entry: | *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* | *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

STAP

At pipeline entry: | *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* | *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

Review by expert from STAP Roster

At pipeline entry: | *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* | *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

PDF B

6. **Terms of Reference** (relate to translating the pipeline entry criterion (met) to the WP inclusion criterion):

Conforming to Gef criteria

7. **Budget line items related to the TOR** (including schedule):

as above

GENERAL COMMENTS

(for records purpose only, not pre-conditions)

At pipeline entry: | *Expected at Work Program inclusion:* | *Expected at CEO endorsement:*

The concept adresses one of the major freshwater basins worldwide. The riparian countries have agreed on engaging in an sustained effort to jointly manage the basin's water and environmental resources, with a view particularly on mitigation of the

devastating transboundary effects of climatic fluctuations. This agreement is in part the result of GEF supported projects in sub-basins of the Plata (Bermejo, Upper Paraguay) or the underlying aquifers (Guarani), which have progressively built the expertise and confidence of the countries. The joint management of the Platra basin will have substantial global environmental benefits given the wealth in biodiversity, unique fresh-water ecosystems (Pantanal), and rich coastal-marine living resources (Rio de la Plata estuary). Based on a TDA-SAP process, the countries will in feat identify and agree upon the strategic actions needed to mitigate the effects of floods/drought cycles, reduce sediment and contaminants transport, and otpimize water use while preserving biodiversity and ecosystems of global relevance (Pantanal, Plata Estuary). The concept, while fully in line with OP9 criteria and IW Strategic Priorities (2), lacks clarity on objectives/activities/outcomes, and presents a three phased approach, the second and third phases of which maybe premature at this time.

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS BY PROGRAM MANAGER

At pipeline entry:
The program manager would recommend CEO approval of pipeline

Expected at Work Program inclusion:

Expected at CEO endorsement:

entry, subject to review of a revised document.

June 03 - A revised proposal was received and reviewed. All recommendations made during the bilateral have been satisfactorily addressed. The program manager recommends CEO approval of pipeline entry and PDF-B.

FURTHER PROCESSING

At pipeline entry:

A teleconference will be held asap to define in detail the needed revisions. UNEP organized a teleconference with GEFSEC and OAS on 6/3/03. Clarity in outcomes, revisions in rationale, and a more crisp text were suggested and agreed with the agencies--simply a presentational problem seems to exist

A bilateral was held on 6/4/03 to brief UNEP and GEFSEC management on the telecon and progress in producing more clarity focused on outcomes. A resubmission is intended as revisions are being undertaken by the project team.

Expected at Work Program inclusion:

Expected at CEO endorsement:

9 - IIX

UNEP's respones to GEF Sec Review Sheet

In an attempt to address all of GEF Sec's concerns as per the review sheet and subsequent teleconferences, UNEP revised the Plata concept submitted originally on 16 May 2003 then re-submitted on 29 May 2003 and finally re-submitted on 11 June 2003.

The last version of the concept, which was approved by GEF Sec on 16 June 2003, concentrates better and more sharply on the "first" phase (see pages 9-21 for the project narrative) of a potential stepwise approach contingent upon successful implementation of the preceding phases (see couple of paras at the bottom of page 20 and top of page 21).

The revised document provides a more focused background and rationale section (page 4-8) including information on the basin itself, on the main environmental issues and issues of global significance providing the rationale for GEF support, it discusses as well the context in which this initiative is taking place and provides information about linkages and coordination amongst the GEF and non GEF initiatives in the basin.

Section E on pages 23-27 provides extensive information about the implementation arrangement and the role of the CIC and its elaborated structure likely to be even more strengthened through this initiative.

The M& E section (page 27-28) has been amended to primarily produce an M&E plan as a result of the PDF-B. Comments of the US re M&E as provided this past May Council have also been incorporated.

GEF Trust Fund Budget in UNEP Format

ANNEX XIII

				2003	2004	2005	Total
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT						
	1100	**Project Personnel**	w/m				
	1101	Technical Co-ordinator (@4,000/m)	18p/m	20,000.00	48,000.00	4,000.00	72,000.00
	1102	Assistant Technical Co-ordinator (@2,000/m)	18p/m	10,000.00	24,000.00	2,000.00	36,000.00
	1103	Secretarial/technical Support (@720/m)	18p/m	4,000.00	8,200.00	900.00	13,100.00
	1199	**Sub-total**		**34,000.00**	**80,200.00**	**6,900.00**	**121,100.00**
	1200	**Consultants**	w/m				
	1201	Consultant activity 1.a (@5,000/m)	5p/m	10,000.00	15,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
	1202	Consultant activity 1.b (@3,400/m)	5p/m	6,800.00	10,200.00	0.00	17,000.00
	1203	Consultant activity 2.a (@5,000/m)	6p/m	10,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
	1204	Consultant activity 3.a (@3,300/m)	12p/m	6,600.00	33,400.00	0.00	40,000.00
	1205	Consultant activity 3.b (@5,000/m)	5p/m	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
	1206	Consultant activity 4.a (@4000/m)	2p/m	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
	1207	Consultant activity 4.b (@3,400/m)	5p/m	0.00	17,000.00	0.00	17,000.00
	1299	**Sub-total**		**33,400.00**	**128,600.00**	**0.00**	**162,000.00**
	1600	**Travel**					
	1601	Travel Technical Unit		6,000.00	13,200.00	800.00	20,000.00
	1699	**Sub-total**		**6,000.00**	**13,200.00**	**800.00**	**20,000.00**
	1999	**Component Total**		**73,400.00**	**222,000.00**	**7,700.00**	**303,100.00**
20	SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT						
	2200	**Sub-contracts**					
	2202	Contract activity 1.c (digital maps)		25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
	2203	Contract activity 1.c (documentation center)		15,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00
	2204	Contract activity activity 1.c (Web page)		8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00
	2205	Contract activity 2.b		20,000.00	62,000.00	0.00	82,000.00
	2206	Contract activity 4.a			12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00
	2299	**Sub-total**		**68,000.00**	**74,000.00**	**0.00**	**142,000.00**
	2999	**Component Total**		**68,000.00**	**74,000.00**	**0.00**	**142,000.00**
30	TRAINING COMPONENT						
	3300	**Meetings/conferences**					
	3301	Workshop activity 1.a (travel related costs)		4,000.00	12,000.00	4,000.00	20,000.00
	3302	Workshops - National Units (travel related costs)		20,000.00	29,000.00	0.00	49,000.00
	3303	International Workshop (travel related costs)		32,000.00	98,000.00	0.00	130,000.00
	3399	**Sub-total**		**56,000.00**	**139,000.00**	**4,000.00**	**199,000.00**
	3999	**Component Total**		**56,000.00**	**139,000.00**	**4,000.00**	**199,000.00**
40		**EQUIPMENT & PREMISES**					
	4200	**Non-expendable equipment**					
	4201	Computer		6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
	4199	**Sub-total**		**6,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,000.00**
				6,000.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,000.00**
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT						
	5200	**Reporting Cost**					
	5220	Translation of documents		1,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00
	5221	Reproduction costs		2,000.00	4,000.00	1,000.00	7,000.00
	5299	**Sub-total**		**3,000.00**	**7,000.00**	**5,000.00**	**15,000.00**
	5300	**Sundry**					
	5301	Communication		3,000.00	9,200.00	2,700.00	14,900.00
	5304	Contingency		5,000.00	12,500.00	2,500.00	20,000.00
	5399	**Sub-Total**		**8,000.00**	**21,700.00**	**5,200.00**	**34,900.00**
	5999	**Component Total**		**11,000.00**	**28,700.00**	**10,200.00**	**49,900.00**
	GRAND TOTAL			**214,400.00**	**463,700.00**	**21,900.00**	**700,000.00**

ANNEX XIV A: QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL REPORT

(For the period: .....)

1. IDENTIFIERS

Country

Project Title

Project No.

Focal Area

Implementing Agency

GEF Funding

Co-funding

2. FINANCIAL STATUS

3. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

4. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT OBJECTIVES

5. SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT OF FACTORS RELATING TO THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOCAL AREA

ANNEX XIV B: FORMAT FOR HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT
AS AT 30 JUNE AND 31 DECEMBER
(Please attach a current inventory of outputs/Services when submitting this report)

1. Background Information

1.1 Project Number:

1.2 Project Title:

1.3 Division/Unit:

1.4 Coordinating Agency or Supporting Organization (if relevant):

1.5 Reporting Period (the six months covered by this report):

1.6 Relevant UNEP Programme of Work (2002-2003) Subprogramme No:

1.7 Staffing Details of Cooperating Agency/ Supporting Organization (Applies to personnel / experts/ consultants paid by the project budget):

Functional Title	Nationality	Object of Expenditure (1101, 1102, 1201, 1301 etc..)

1.8 Sub-Contracts (if relevant):

Name and Address of the Sub-Contractee	Object of expenditure (2101, 2201, 2301 etc..)

2. Project Status

2.1 Information on the delivery of outputs/services

	Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	Status (Complete/ Ongoing)	Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions/Actions to be taken
1.				
2.				
3.				

2.2 If the project is not on track, provide reasons and details of remedial action to be taken:

3. Discussion acknowledgment (To be completed by UNEP)

Project Coordinator's General Comments/Observations	First Supervising Officer's General Comments
Name:	Name:
Date:	Date:
Signature:	Signature:

Attachment to Half-Yearly Progress and Terminal Reports: Format for Inventory of Outputs/Services

a) Meetings (UNEP-convened meetings only)

No	Meeting Type (note 4)	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	List attached Yes/No	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1.											
2.											
3.											

List of Meeting Participants

No.	Name of the Participant	Nationality

b) Printed Materials

No	Type (note 5)	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.							
2.							
3.							

c) Technical Information / Public Information

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

d) Technical Cooperation

No	Type (note 6)	Purpose	Venue	Duration	For Grants and Fellowships		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in US$)
1.							
2.							

e) Other Outputs/Services (e.g. Networking, Query-response, Participation in meetings etc.)

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

Note 4

Meeting types (Inter-governmental Meeting, Expert Group Meeting, Training Workshop/Seminar, Other)

Note 5

Material types (Report to Inter-governmental Meeting, Technical Publication, Technical Report, Other)

Note 6

Technical Cooperation Type (Grants and Fellowships, Advisory Services, Staff Mission, Others)

ANNEX XV: TERMINAL REPORT
(For External Projects Only)

Implementing Organization _____
Project No.:

_____

Project Title: _____

_____

1. **Project Needs and Results**
   Re-state the needs and results of the project.
2. **Project activities**
   Describe the activities actually undertaken under the project, giving reasons **why some activities were not undertaken, if any.**
3. **Project outputs**
   Compare the outputs generated with the ones listed in the project document.
   List the actual outputs **produced but not included in previous Progress Reports** under the following headings

(Please tick appropriate box)

(a) **MEETINGS** (UNEP-convened meetings only)
Inter-governmental (IG) Mtg. Expert Group Mtg. Training Seminar/Workshop Others
Title: _____

_____

Venue and dates _____
Convened by _____ Organized by _____
Report issued as doc. No/Symbol _____ Languages _____ Dated _____
For Training Seminar/Workshop, please indicate: No. of participants _____ and attach **annex** giving names and nationalities of participants.

(b) **PRINTED MATERIALS**
Report to IG Mtg. Technical Publication Technical Report Others
Title: _____

_____

Author(s)/Editor(s) _____
Publisher _____
Symbol(UN/UNEP/ISBN/ISSN) _____
Date of publication _____
(When technical reports/publications have been distributed, attach **distribution list)**

(c) **TECHNICAL INFORMATION** **PUBLIC INFORMATION**
Description _____

_____

_____

_____

Dates _____

(d) TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Grants and Fellowships Advisory Services
Staff Missions Others (describe)

Purpose _____

_____

Place and duration _____

For Grants/Fellowships, please indicate:

Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost(in US$)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(f) OTHER OUTPUTS/SERVICES

For example, Networking, Query-response, Participation in meetings etc.

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. Use of outputs
   State the use made of the outputs.
5. Degree of achievement of the objectives/results
   On the basis of facts obtained during the follow-up phase, describe how the project document outputs and their use were or were not instrumental in realizing the objectives/results of the project.
6. Conclusions
   Enumerate the lessons learned during the project execution. Concentrate on the management of the project, indicating the principal factors which determined success or failure in meeting the objectives set down in the project document.
7. Recommendations
   Make recommendations to:
   (a) Improve effect and impact of similar projects in the future;
   (b) Indicate what further action might be needed to meet the project objectives/results.
8. Non-expendable equipment (value over US$1,500)
   Please attach to the terminal report a **final** inventory of all non-expendable equipment (if any) purchased
   under this project, indicating the following:

Date of purchase, description, serial number, quantity, cost, location and present condition, together with your proposal for the disposal of the said equipment.

Quarterly Expenditure Reporting Format for Year 2003

			Year 2003 Allocation	Sep-Dec 2003 Expenditure	Year 2003 Cumulative	Balance for 2005
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT					
	1100	**Project Personnel**				
	1101	Technical Co-ordinator (@4,000/m)	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
	1102	Assistant Technical Co-ordinator (@2,000/m)	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
	1103	Secretarial/technical Support (@720/m)	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	1199	Sub-total	34,000.00	0.00	0.00	34,000.00
	1200	**Consultants**				
	1201	Consultant activity 1.a (@5,000/m)	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
	1202	Consultant activity 1.b (@3,400/m)	6,800.00	0.00	0.00	6,800.00
	1203	Consultant activity 2.a (@5,000/m)	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
	1204	Consultant activity 3.a (@3,300/m)	6,600.00	0.00	0.00	6,600.00
	1205	Consultant activity 3.b (@5,000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1206	Consultant activity 4.a (@4000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1207	Consultant activity 4.b (@3,400/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1299	Sub-total	33,400.00	0.00	0.00	33,400.00
	1600	**Travel**				
	1601	Travel Technical Unit	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
	1699	Sub-total	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
	1999	Component Total	73,400.00	0.00	0.00	73,400.00
20	SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT					
	2200	**Sub-contracts**				
	2202	Contract activity 1.c (digital maps)	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
	2203	Contract activity 1.c (documentation center)	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00
	2204	Contract activity activity 1.c (Web page)	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00
	2205	Contract activity 2.b	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
	2206	Contract activity 4.a		0.00	0.00	0.00
	2299	Sub-total	68,000.00	0.00	0.00	68,000.00
	2999	Component Total	68,000.00	0.00	0.00	68,000.00
30	TRAINING COMPONENT					
	3300	**Meetings/conferences**				
	3301	Workshop activity 1.a (travel related costs)	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	3302	Workshops - National Units (travel related costs)	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
	3303	International Workshop (travel related costs)	32,000.00	0.00	0.00	32,000.00
	3399	Sub-total	56,000.00	0.00	0.00	56,000.00
	3999	Component Total	56,000.00	0.00	0.00	56,000.00
40		EQUIPMENT & PREMISES				
	4100	**Non-expendable equipment**				
	4101	Computer	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
	4199	Sub-total	6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
			6,000.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT					
	5200	**Reporting Cost**				
	5220	Translation of documents	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	5221	Reproduction costs	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
	5299	Sub-total	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
	5300	**Sundry**				
	5301	Communication	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
	53	Contingency	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
	5399	Sub-Total	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00
	5999	Component Total	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	11,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL		214,400.00	0.00	0.00	214,400.00

ANNEX XVI B

Quarterly Expenditure Reporting Format for Year 2004

		Year 2004 Allocation	Jan-Mar 2004 Expenditure	Apr-Jun 2004 Expenditure	Jul-Sep 2004 Expenditure	Oct-Dec 2004 Expenditure	Year 2005 Cumulative	Bala for 2
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT							
1100	Project Personnel							
1101	Technical Co-ordinator (@4,000/m)	48,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48,00
1102	Assistant Technical Co-ordinator (@2,000/m)	24,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,00
1103	Secretarial/technical Support (@720/m)	8,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,20
1199	Sub-total	80,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	80,20
1200	Consultants							
1201	Consultant activity 1.a (@5,000/m)	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,00
1202	Consultant activity 1.b (@3,400/m)	10,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,20
1203	Consultant activity 2.a (@5,000/m)	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,00
1204	Consultant activity 3.a (@3,300/m)	33,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33,40
1205	Consultant activity 3.b (@5,000/m)	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,00
1206	Consultant activity 4.a (@4000/m)	8,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,00
1207	Consultant activity 4.b (@3,400/m)	17,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,00
1299	Sub-total	128,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	128,60
1600	Travel							
1601	Travel Technical Unit	13,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,20
1699	Sub-total	13,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,20
1999	Component Total	222,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	222,00
20	SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT							
2200	Sub-contracts							
2202	Contract activity 1.c (digital maps)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2203	Contract activity 1.c (documentation center)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2204	Contract activity activity 1.c (Web page)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2205	Contract activity 2.b	62,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	62,00
2206	Contract activity 4.a	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,00
2299	Sub-total	74,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,00
2999	Component Total	74,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74,00
30	TRAINING COMPONENT							
3300	Meetings/conferences							
3301	Workshop activity 1.a (travel related costs)	12,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,00
3302	Workshops - National Units (travel related costs)	29,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,00
3303	International Workshop (travel related costs)	98,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	98,00
3399	Sub-total	139,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	139,00
3999	Component Total	139,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	139,00
40	EQUIPMENT & PREMISES COMPONENT							
4000	Non-expendable equipment							
4100	Computer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4199	Sub-total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4999	Component Total	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT							
5200	Reporting Cost							
5220	Translation of documents	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,00
5221	Reproduction costs	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,00
5299	Sub-total	7,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,00
5300	Sundry							
5301	Communication	9,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,20
53	Contingency	12,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,50
5399	Sub-Total	21,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,70
5999	Component Total	28,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,70
GRAND TOTAL		463,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	463,70

Quarterly Expenditure Reporting Format for Year 2005

			Year 2005 Allocation	Jan-Feb 2005 Expenditure	Year 2005 Cumulative	Balance for 2005
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL COMPONENT					
	1100	**Project Personnel**				
	1101	Technical Co-ordinator (@4,000/m)	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	1102	Assistant Technical Co-ordinator (@2,000/m)	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
	1103	Secretarial/technical Support (@720/m)	900.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
	1199	**Sub-total**	**6,900.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,900.00**
	1200	**Consultants**				
	1201	Consultant activity 1.a (@5,000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1202	Consultant activity 1.b (@3,400/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1203	Consultant activity 2.a (@5,000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1204	Consultant activity 3.a (@3,300/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1205	Consultant activity 3.b (@5,000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1206	Consultant activity 4.a (@4000/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1207	Consultant activity 4.b (@3,400/m)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1299	**Sub-total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
	1600	**Travel**				
	1601	Travel Technical Unit	800.00	0.00	0.00	800.00
	1699	**Sub-total**	**800.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**800.00**
	1999	**Component Total**	**6,700.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,700.00**
20	SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT					
	2200	**Sub-contracts**				
	2202	Contract activity 1.c (digital maps)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2203	Contract activity 1.c (documentation center)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2204	Contract activity activity 1.c (Web page)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2205	Contract activity 2.b	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2206	Contract activity 4.a	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	2299	**Sub-total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
	2999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
30	TRAINING COMPONENT					
	3300	**Meetings/conferences**				
	3301	Workshop activity 1.a (travel related costs)	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	3302	Workshops - National Units (travel related costs)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	3303	International Workshop (travel related costs)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	3399	**Sub-total**	**4,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**4,000.00**
	3999	**Component Total**	**4,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**4,000.00**
40		EQUIPMENT & PREMISES COMPONENT				
	4000	**Non-expendable equipment**				
	4100	Computer	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	4199	**Sub-total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
	4999	**Component Total**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
50	MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT					
	5200	**Reporting Cost**				
	5220	Translation of documents	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
	5221	Reproduction costs	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
	5299	**Sub-total**	**5,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**5,000.00**
	5300	**Sundry**				
	5301	Communication	2,700.00	0.00	0.00	2,700.00
	53	Contingency	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
	5399	**Sub-Total**	**5,200.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**5,200.00**
	5999	**Component Total**	**10,200.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**10,200.00**
		GRAND TOTAL	**21,900.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**21,900.00**

ANNEX XVII: INVENTORY OF NON-EXPANDABLE EQUIPMENT PURCHASED AGAINST UNEP PROJECTS

UNIT VALUE US$1,500 AND ABOVE AND ITEMS OF ATTRACTION

As at _____

Project No._____

Project Title _____

Executing Agency: _____

Internal/SO/CA (UNEP use only)_____

FPMO (UNEP) use only)_____

Description	Serial No.	Date of Purchase	Original Price (US$)	Purchased / Imported from (Name of Country)	Present Condition	Location	Remarks/recommendation for disposal

The physical verification of the items was done by:

Name:_____ **Signature:**_____

Title: _____ **Date:** _____

ANNEX XVIII: CASH ADVANCE STATEMENT

Statement of cash advance as at .....
And cash requirements for the quarter of .....

Name of cooperating agency/
Supporting organization _____
Project No. _____
Project title _____

I. **Cash statement**

1. Opening cash balance as at ..... US$ _____
2. Add: cash advances received:

Date	**Amount**
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

3. Total cash advanced to date US$ _____
4. Less: total cumulative expenditures incurred US$ (_____)
5. Closing cash balance as at ..... US$ _____

II. **Cash requirements forecast**

6. Estimated disbursements for quarter ending ..... US$ _____
7. Less: closing cash balance (see item 5, above) US$ (_____)
8. Less interests accrued US$ (_____)
9. Total cash requirements for the ..... quarter ..... US$ _____

Prepared by _____ Request approved by _____
Duly authorized official of cooperating agency/ supporting organization.

Annex XIX: Format for Report on Co-Financing

Title of Project:							
Project Number:							
Name of Executing Agency:							
Project Duration:							
Reporting Period *(to be done annually)*:	From:			To:			
Source of Cofinance	Cash Contributions			In-kind Contributions			Comments
	Budget original (at time of approval by GEF)	Budget latest revision	Received to date	Budget original (at time of approval by GEF)	Budget latest revision	Received to date	
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Name: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

All amounts in US dollars