

Meeting of the Working Group on South American Rail Integration

May 21, 2014
Montevideo, Uruguay
Rincón 561, piso 9

AGENDA

1. BACKGROUND

During the Second Session of COSIPLAN that took place in Brasilia in November 30, 2011, the Ministers of COSIPLAN agree on the creation of the Working Group about South American Rail Integration.

COSIPLAN's Agreement Nr. 3/2011 (Brasilia – November 30, 2011) established: 1) Create a Working Group on South American Rail Integration, 2) Incorporate the Working Group on Bioceanic Rail Integration Argentina-Brazil-Chile-Paraguay to the above mentioned WG, whose previous works will constitute the starting point for future works; 3) Take advantage of the results obtained by this Working Group on Bioceanic Rail Integration Argentina-Brazil-Chile-Paraguay to develop and integrate other South American Rail networks in later stages and 4) instruct the realization of regular meetings of the Working Group and require the presentation of activity reports about the Ministerial meetings of COSIPLAN.

During the III Ordinary Meeting of COSIPLAN (Lima, November 16, 2012), the Ministers agreed to order Uruguay with the presidency of the Working Group on Rail Integration.

The First Meeting of the Working Group on South American Rail Integration took place in Santiago de Chile in September 2013, where the importance to focus the efforts to integrate the rail mode to improve the freight transportation was highlighted. The situation of rail projects in COSIPLAN-IIRSA Portfolio and API was analyzed by Integration and Development Axis (EID) and specific topics were presented as basis for the discussion in the Working Group: (i) "National Socialist Plan of Rail Development" by Venezuela; (ii) "More and better trains – Changing the matrix of Latin America and the Caribbean", document developed for the IDB; (iii) studies related with the "Bioceanic Rail Corridor" and (iv) "Feasibility study for the construction of Rail System in Paraguay" by the delegation of this country.

In that meeting the following actions were settled:

- Complete and update the information of the rail projects in the Projects' Database.
- Try to consolidate a map of the existing rail network (using the maps done by ALAF as basis meanwhile the GIS is not operative).
- Generate Terms of Reference to tender aiming the recopilation and analysis of the national and international present regulations, looking forward to harmonize the regional rails and eventually generate common regulations.
- Submit the National Plans for Rail Development for their networks, including information about identified present and potential demand.

In April 2014 during the Meeting of the Executive Technical Groups of the EID the countries agreed to analyze the proposal of specific descriptors by sectors, sub-sectors and type of work, submitted by the CCT in the meeting, as well as the proposed Result Indicators.

2. EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE II SESSION OF THE RAIL INTEGRATION GROUP

- Agree mechanisms to consolidate a map of the existing rail networks till the GIS is implemented.
- Settle the Descriptors and Result Indicators corresponding to the rail mode as of the proposed ones in the Bogota meeting
- Interchange information related to the National Plans of Rail Development in the UNASUR countries, focused in the interconnection points
- Agree the Terms of Reference about the invitation to bid
- Establish the future activities of the Group specially the corresponding to the 2015 Working Plan – COSIPLAN

3. PARTICIPANTS

It is expected the participation of National Coordinators and national officials related to planification and rail transport, as well as CCT representatives.

4. AGENDA

- 09.30-09.45 **Opening Session**
Pablo Genta, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Transportation and Public Works of Uruguay
Presidency Pro Tempore of COSIPLAN - Chile
- 09.45-10.00 **Expected results of the session**
Presidency of the Working Group - Uruguay
- 10.00-10.45 **Perspectives on Rail Integration**
Invited specialist, World Bank Consultant, Mr. Ian Thompson
- 10.45-11.00 **Coffee Break**
- 11.00 -11.45 **Cartography consolidation of the existing rail networks – COSIPLAN-IIRSA projects**
Umberto Curi – Presidency of the Working Group on Rail Integration
- 11.45-12.30 **Analysis of the descriptors and Indicators of results set at the Bogotá session, corresponding to the rail sector**
National Coordinations
Moderator: Presidency of the Working Group on Rail
- 12.30-14.00 **Lunch (free)**
- 14.00-16.00 **National Plans for rail development**
National Coordinations
- 16.00-16.15 **Coffee Break**
- 16.15-17.15 **Discussion of the Terms of Reference**
- 17.15-18.00 **Consideration of the notes of the meeting and closing session**
Pablo Genta, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Transportation and Public Works of Uruguay