

## **WORKSHOP**

# **Crafting an Action Agenda for the Uruguay River Basin**

*Itaipú, 16 May 2016*

**What are the present water  
governance challenges in the  
Uruguay River Basin?**

**Víctor Pochat**

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## MEDIATION BY MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN RELATIONS

*Basin organizations have a weak relationship with the ministries and other national bodies because the relationship is generally mediated by national ministries of foreign relations.*



ARGENTINA



BOLIVIA



BRAZIL



PARAGUAY



URUGUAY

**1967. Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee of La Plata Basin Countries – CIC**

**1969. La Plata Basin Treaty**

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# MEDIATION BY MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN RELATIONS



ARGENTINA



BOLIVIA



BRAZIL



PARAGUAY



URUGUAY

**1969. Groups of Experts**

**1985. Concentration in four subjects:**

- *Water and other Natural Resources*
- *Navigation*
- *Fluvial and Terrestrial Transport*
- *Border Cooperation*

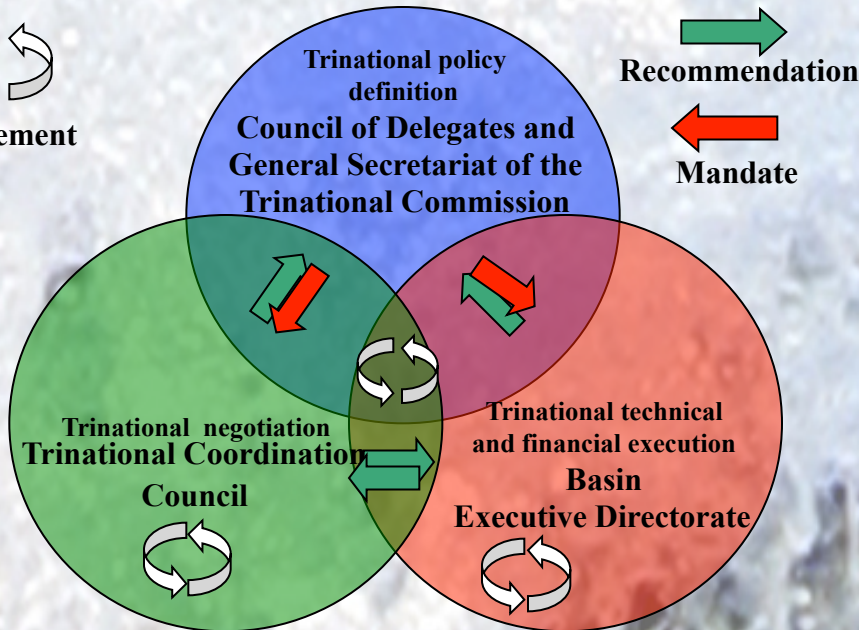
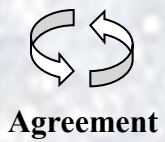
**1986. Technical Counterparts/Success in:**

- *Hydrological Warning*
- *Water Quality*

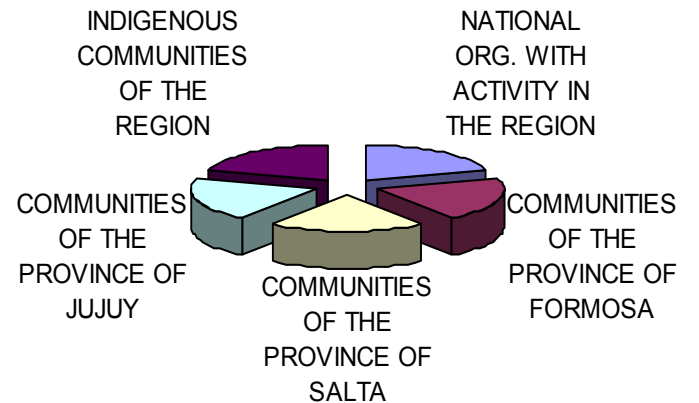
**2001. Two representatives from each Basin country:**

- *Political*
  - *Technical*
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# PILCOMAYO RIVER BASIN



## ARGENTINEAN NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE



## **Pilcomayo River Basin Institutional Framework**

### **FACILITATORS**

- **Constitute the Provincial Coordination Committees.**
- **Know the institutional framework.**
- **Travel through the influence area of the Pilcomayo river basin.**
- **Survey proposals and recommendations from the Basin inhabitants as regards the “Project on Integrated Management and Master Plan”.**
- **Keep informed the provincial representatives before the Follow-up Group and the Argentinean Delegation.**
- **Propose actors for the Provincial Coordination Committees.**
- **Compile documentation.**
- **Identify and survey conflicts and suggestions –as possible- of ways for solution.**
- **Identify leaders.**

## **GARABÍ-PANAMBÍ PROJECT**

***Presently, the politics of the basin are driven mainly by local communities and social movements on both sides of the border mobilized around the Garabí-Panambí project. The great majority of people living in the areas where the binational project is planned are opposed and many are involved in advocacy work to prevent the construction of dams. A point of contention with Garabí-Panambí is the environmental, social and ecological, impacts of this project in comparison to its expected gains.***

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CONCERNS



Misiones dice:  
**NO a Garabí**

**NO a la Represa de Garabí**  
Que **NO** inunden nuestros pueblos  
Que **NO** enfermen a nuestros hijos  
Que **NO** nos dejen sin hogar  
Que **NO** nos mientan más  
Que **NO** destruyan lo que Dios creó  
Que **NO** agredan a la naturaleza  
Que **NO** nos engañen, ya sabemos lo que es una represa.  
**Unite con tu firma al NO a Garabí.**

**DÍA INTERNACIONAL DE ACCIÓN CONTRA LAS REPRESAS Y POR LOS RÍOS EL AGUA Y LA VIDA**

**14 DE MARZO**



## **GARABÍ-PANAMBÍ PROJECT**

***There are no participatory mechanisms that are permanent and institutionalized at the level of the Uruguay basin to engage local communities in deliberative processes over decisions concerning the basin. The institutional bodies ..., not only do not cover the whole of the Uruguay basin, but have not being conceived to address the delicate issues and related conflictivity of the hydroenergy interventions as well as others. Instead, they were conceived as technical cooperation organizations at a time when socio-environmental controversies were not part of the social and political landscape of the region (Saguier, 2012)***



***THANK YOU VERY MUCH***

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***Itaipú***

***16 May 2016***