



Organização do Tratado de  
Cooperação Amazonica  
PS - Permanent Secretariat

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Cooperación Amazónica  
PS - Permanent Secretariat

Amazon Cooperation  
Treaty Organization  
SP- Permanent Secretariat

De Organisatie van de Overeenkomst voor  
Amazonische Samenwerking  
SP- Permanent Secretariat

**SP/OTCA/ 4 /2019**

Brasilia, August 23rd, 2019

**To:**

**Mr. Goran Marby  
ICANN President and CEO**

Dear Mr, Marby,

In my capacity as Secretary General of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization, I would kindly send for your information the Joint Declaration of the Presidents of the Mercosur Member States and Associate States, which is a result of the Mercosur Summit of Presidents, held on July 17th and 18th, 2019 in Santa Fe, Argentina

The aforementioned Declaration outlines the Signature of a Special Declaration from Andean Presidential Council - CAN, and both highlight the concern of the relevant Member States in relation to the decision made by the ICANN Board of Directors to delegate the ".amazon" top level domain to Amazon Inc. on an exclusive basis.

Kind regards.

The image shows a blue ink signature of Alexandra Moreira. To the right of the signature is a circular official stamp of the OTCA. The stamp contains the text 'ORGANIZACION DEL TRATADO DE COOPERACION AMAZONICA' around the perimeter, 'OTCA' in the center, and 'BRASILIA' and '2019' at the bottom. Below the signature and stamp, the name and title are printed in black.

**ALEXANDRA MOREIRA**  
Secretaria General

**ALEXANDRA MOREIRA**  
Secretary General

**JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ BY THE PRESIDENTS OF MERCOSUR  
MEMBER AND ASSOCIATE STATES**

The Presidents from the Argentine Republic, Mauricio Macri; Federative Republic of Brazil, Jair Messias Bolsonaro; Republic of Paraguay, Mario Abdo Benitez; and from the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, Tabare Vazquez Rosas, MERCOSUR Member States; the President from the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Evo Morales Ayma, the President from the Republic of Chile, Sebastián Piñera Echenique; and the highest government authorities of Associate States gathered together in Santa Fe on July 17, 2019, on the occasion of the LIV MERCOSUR Summit of Presidents.

Emphasized that the full validity of democratic institutions, and human rights and fundamental freedoms observance are essential conditions for regional integration processes.

Reaffirmed their strong commitment to the prevention and fight against corruption and their willingness to strengthen regional cooperation for the eradication of this scourge.

Reaffirmed the commitment of Latin America and the Caribbean as a peace zone, based on respect for International Law and the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter.

Reaffirmed their commitment to deepen regional integration in order to contribute to economic development and social inclusion and to the improvement of the quality of life and the eradication of hunger and poverty in their territories, in line with the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Reaffirmed MERCOSUR commitment to the 2030 Agenda and the implementation of its Sustainable Development Goals, and took note, with satisfaction, of the work being carried out by different bodies in relation to the 2030 Agenda.

Underscored the progress made, during this period, on the different political, social and civic aspects of MERCOSUR, around four topics: poverty and inequality gaps; food and nutrition security; comprehensive protection of children during early childhood; and production and labor inclusion from a social and solidarity economy.

Recognized the importance of education as a factor of economic and social development and valued the signing of the Administration Agreement with CAF for the management of MERCOSUR Educational Fund. Student mobility is one of the factors contributing to a regional identity development.

Welcomed the celebration of the II International Seminar on Good Practices for Early Childhood on June 13, 2019 in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina, with the support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); and a Seminar on "Recognition of University Degrees and Professional Practice in MERCOSUR ", held on May 24 in Buenos Aires, which reiterated the importance of advancing in regional measures to promote initiatives to materialize mobility and professional practice in the region;

Stressed the significant progress of the MERCOSUR Education Sector Action Plan for 2016-2020, which is aligned with the priorities of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly with SDGs 3, 4 and 8.

Considered it essential to advance in the adoption of concrete measures to facilitate the mobility of artists and the free movement of cultural goods and services, as proposed by the MERCOSUR Ministers of Culture.

Congratulated the Argentine Republic for the meeting of Cultural Industries (MICA) held this year and celebrated the decision of the Ministers of Culture to reactivate the Market of Cultural Industries of the South (MICSUR) that will have Uruguay as the next venue in 2020. Likewise, they highlighted the importance of the work done in the production of cultural information for public policy design and implementation.

Highlighted the progress achieved in the approach between MERCOSUR and the Pacific Alliance, based on the Puerto Vallarta Action Plan. In this context, they praised the efforts in order to promote synergies, articulation and complementation of the cultural agendas of MERCOSUR and the Pacific Alliance.

They highlighted the realization of the Meeting of South American experts on the Protection of Cultural Property, given the relevance that the region gives to the fight against the illicit traffic of cultural goods, in the understanding that the protection of cultural heritage is essential to preserve our cultural heritage identifying us as a region.

Celebrated the publication of the second edition of the Notebooks on Diversity referring to local cultural experiences developed by women and for women, the continuity of on line training on cultural diversity, and welcomed the proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of the year 2019, as the "International Year of Indigenous Languages".

Underscored the celebration of the XXXIII MERCOSUR Meeting of High-Level Authorities on Human Rights (RAADH) and pledged to continue coordinating public policies and initiatives in the field of human rights for the region.

Ratified the need to ensure respect for the Human Rights of migrants, regardless of their immigration status, nationality, ethnicity, gender, age or any other consideration, by encouraging, to this end, the implementation of cooperation mechanisms in the migration policy area. In this regard, they take note of the approval of the "Operational Agreement for the Implementation of Migration Information Exchange Mechanisms among MERCOSUR Member States", which shall facilitate people mobility, expedite border traffic, reduce documentation requirements for South American citizens to process their residences in the region.

Welcomed the approval of the "Agreement on the Consular Cooperation Mechanism among the MERCOSUR Member and Associate States" in the framework of the Meeting of the Working Group on Consular and Legal Affairs of MERCOSUR and Associate States. This Agreement will deepen, expand and update cooperation and reciprocal support in consular matters with the objective that MERCOSUR nationals may access the protection and assistance of the Consular Representation of one of the Member states in the territory of a third State, in cases where there is no representation of the State of their nationality.

Highlighted the work carried out by the Ministers and High-Level Authorities on Women Issues (RMAAM) on gender and human trafficking, and welcomed the adoption of the Strategic Recommendations for the Addition of the Ethnic-Racial Perspective in MERCOSUR Gender Policies", as well as the "Listen to Our Voices" Campaign, for social media to make the contributions of Afro-descendant women and indigenous women of MERCOSUR visible. Also highlighted the adoption of the recommendation for the creation of a Regional Mechanism for Mutual Recognition of Protective Measures for women who are victims of violence.

Welcomed the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in International Food Obligations" within the scope of the Meeting of Ministers of Justice of MERCOSUR and Associate States (RMJ).

Reiterated their strong commitment to the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights, highlighting the actions promoted by the Meeting of Authorities on Indigenous Peoples' Rights (RAPIM), to promote their cultural, social, economic, political and institutional exchange within the regional integration process framework. Also pledged to working together with indigenous peoples, in order to implement measures for the preservation, transmission and development of their knowledge systems.

Reaffirmed the importance of continuing to implement the Action Plan for the International Decade for African Descendant People proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly (2015-2024), in order to incorporate the question of Afro-descendant self-identification into the National Census round.

Urged institutional spaces to strengthen the various groups that address and work on Afro-descendant and racial equity issues in the region, to promote good practices in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, guaranteeing access to justice, recognition of communities and social and economic development for Afro-descendant populations.

Highlighted the results of the XLIV Meeting of Health Ministers of MERCOSUR and Associate States, reaffirming the importance of making greater efforts to include the perspective of health in public policies, to help protecting health and to reduce the impact of non- transmissible diseases among MERCOSUR citizens.

Took note of the initiative of the XXII Meeting of Environment Ministers emphasizing the importance of addressing the MERCOSUR Environmental Agenda as a contribution to the International Environmental Agenda. In compliance with the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in this regard, they welcomed the celebration of the Climate Week held from August 19 to 23 in the city of Salvador - Federative Republic of Brazil.

Reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of their nationally determined contributions and will continue to dialogue under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, with a view to contributing to the progress of the negotiations and the fulfillment of the objectives of these Agreements. In that regard, they expressed their support for the Presidency of Chile during the 25th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP25) and reiterated that they will work constructively in the next round of negotiations.

Highlighted the importance of jointly working in Disaster Risk mitigation and Humanitarian Assistance in the region, in accordance with the priorities set forth on the Sendai Framework 2015-2030. In this context, they highlighted the work carried out by the Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities on Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (RMAGIR) linked to the approval of the Strategy for Disaster Risk Management of MERCOSUR Countries, the integration of the Technical Commission of Hydro-meteorological Services (CTSH) to RMAGIR, as well as the cooperation process that this Group has been carrying out with the Andean Committee for Disaster Prevention and Assistance (CAPRADE).

Reiterated their commitment to the prevention, fight and eradication of manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, their parts, ammunition, explosives and other related materials, and emphasized the importance of continuing to strengthen regional cooperation in order to implement policies, strategies and common programs to encourage the exchange of information and good practices among countries.

Welcomed the Recommendation on "The Autonomy of the Official Public Defender as a guarantee of access to justice for persons in vulnerable situations", and pledged to encourage and strengthen the technical independence, functional autonomy and financial autarchy of Official Public Defenders, so that they may fully exercise their functions.

Noted the importance of the Declaration issued at the Meeting of Ministers of Justice of MERCOSUR and Associate States on the Creation of a Penitentiary Cooperation Network (REDCOPEN) and encouraged its prompt implementation to contribute to the strengthening of the fight against organized crime.

Highlighted the recommendations of the Ministers of Homeland Security aimed at combating organized crime in the region and providing it with greater security, such as the Operational Agreement for the Implementation of Migration Information Exchange Mechanisms and the declaration for the creation of the "Day of Citizen Security for the Prevention of Crime and Violence in MERCOSUR".

Reiterated their condemnation of the most serious terrorist attack committed by transnational terrorism in the Region, perpetrated 25 years ago against the Headquarters of the Argentine Jewish Community Center (AMIA) in Buenos Aires, and reaffirmed their commitment to international legal cooperation in relation to the ongoing judicial investigation.

Reaffirmed their commitment to the fight against terrorism and agreed to continue deepening the monitoring and analysis of the events and trends related to terrorism and related crimes in the region, through regional organizations such as the MERCOSUR Specialized Forum against Terrorism (FET), with absolute respect for international law and in observance of the United Nations Strategy against Terrorism.

Renewed their joint commitment to effectively address the global drug problem, in a broad, comprehensive and balanced fashion, in regional forums such as the Specialized Meeting of Drug Enforcement Authorities (RED), under the principle of joint and shared responsibility and within the framework of full respect for Human Rights.

Expressed their full commitment and regional cooperation with the fight against Cross Border Organized Crime and their support for the effective implementation of the MERCOSUR Security Information Exchange System (SISME), which will allow the rapid and secure exchange of information on judicially required persons, sequestration of motor vehicles and weapons among the respective security bodies of the Member States.

Pledged to continue promoting border integration in all aspects: education, health, work, safety, access to justice, among others, privileging

border regions as a space for cultural, social and economic exchange among peoples. In particular, they appreciated the efforts made to sign the Agreement on MERCOSUR Related Bordering Districts.

Celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Cartagena Agreement and the Andean Community and highlighted the achievements and strategic objectives achieved during this half century of existence, as well as their contribution to strengthening the sub regional integration process.

Highlighted the signing of the Special Declaration of the Andean Presidential Council on the use of new technologies and the Amazon top level domain, taking into account the concern regarding the recent decision made by the Board of Directors of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), which delegates the "Amazon" top-level domain to Amazon Inc. on an exclusive basis, despite the opposition expressed by the Member States of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

Valued the effort carried out by the Colombian government to implement the Final Agreement to End the Armed Conflict and Build a Stable and Lasting Peace, and its commitment to overcoming violence and building higher levels of coexistence and social progress, and they took note of the "Peace with Legitimacy" policy.

Reaffirmed the terms of the "Declaration on the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands", signed on 25 June, 1996 in Potrero de los Funes, Argentine Republic, by the Presidents of the MERCOSUR Member States of the Republic of Bolivia and the Republic of Chile, and reiterated their support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute concerning the Question of the Malvinas Islands. Emphasizing the full willingness shown by the Argentine government, they welcomed the climate of cooperation reached and the progress achieved in various areas and called for deepening the existing dialogue to facilitate the resumption of negotiations in order to find a lasting solution to the sovereignty dispute.

Santa Fe, July 17th, 2019