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Economic Commission for Latin America

Meeting on Horizontal Co-operation for the
Development of the Mineral Resources of
Latin America, organized by the Economic
Commission for Latin America (CEPAL) and
the Colombian Mining Corporation (ECOMINAS)

Bogotá, Colombia, 14-18 June 1982



PROPOSALS FOR HORIZONTAL CO-OPERATION PROJECTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF THE MINING AND METALLURGICAL SECTOR OF
LATIN AMERICA
(PRELIMINARY LIST)

Attached is the preliminary list of announcements of different horizontal co-operation projects for the development of the mining and metallurgical sector proposed by various countries of the region.

The list was drawn up on the basis of the requests and offers made by Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and the Dominican Republic, in the hope that it will be expanded by contributions from other countries and from the discussions and ideas which arise during the meeting.

The purpose of presenting this preliminary list is to promote its expansion and improvement, in order to establish a list which will concretely consolidate and harmonize the interests of the countries and public and private agencies participating in the event.

In order to facilitate the analysis of the projects presented, they have been classified tentatively as: (a) regional or subregional projects and (b) multinational projects. The announcements of these projects are presented below.

(a) Regional or subregional projects

These projects would involve the participation of most of the countries of the region, or given groups of countries which have a certain affinity, either geographic, political or productive.

The proposals for these projects were submitted by the following countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Peru.

- Regional or subregional studies on the installed capacities of geological-mining and metallurgical research centres for the purpose of developing programmes for internationally dividing the research among the different countries of the area.

- Undertaking studies with other Latin American countries for the purpose of analysing the present installed capacity of the main mining equipment and machinery of the region or subregion in order to project the demands for these in the next 20 years, and to begin studies for the installation of Latin American multinational corporations; or to begin negotiations with transnational corporations which might meet the needs for mining equipment and machinery which will arise in the coming decades in Latin America.

- To begin joint studies aimed at minimizing the costs of maritime transport of minerals by means of agreements between the countries of the region in respect of improving the use of ships.

- To become involved with the countries of the region in initiating studies designed to evaluate the coal-producing potential of the region; possible integration of countries in the exploitation of this mineral; study of the Latin American and world markets; analysis of the use of coal in Latin American industry, and formulation of policies designed to substitute coal for oil.

- Establishment of multinational corporations through the association of public and/or private national corporations of the region, in order to aid in the initiation and implementation of mining projects. It would be a question of integrating into this multinational corporation the substantial experience acquired by some countries in the different phases of the development of a deposit, up to the stage of marketing of the mining products.

- Establishment of a centre of statistical information and documentation on geological mining and metallurgy with international and Latin American co-operation based in one of the countries of the region.

- Codification, normalization and standardization of geological mining and metallurgical terms and symbols in consultation with the countries of the Latin American community area.

- Exchange of information and transfer of experience in the exploitation and processing of bauxite and nickel with the countries which produce these minerals.

- Establishment at the Latin American level of a system of professional exchange designed to offer participatory experience.

- Holding of talks or lectures at the regional or subregional level to acquire experience in the training and capacitation of groups to negotiate mining contracts.

- Technical assistance through the offer of scholarships for young professionals to strengthen their knowledge by holding assistantships in the mining countries of Latin America, especially in the exploitation of underground and open pit mines.

- Obtaining of scholarships in the region for graduate and post-graduate studies in professions related to mining.

- Carrying out of joint regional or subregional geological research studies with other Latin American countries, using satellites in order to minimize costs and exchange knowledge, information and experience with countries which have similar geological formations.

- Metallurgical development plan for the Andean subregion with the joint participation of the countries belonging to it.
- Co-operation among the Andean countries to implement a Mining Integral Development Plan in the Andean subregion.
- Carrying out of studies and work on geological and mining exploration, prospection and development related to the basic metals in the countries of the Andean subregion.
- Joint project to evaluate, describe and process iron ore in the region.

(b) Multinational projects

This category includes, on the one hand, the project proposals from countries which need Latin American horizontal co-operation for the development of their mining activity and, on the other, the offers made in project proposals by some countries, especially those with a mining tradition, to satisfy the needs of some countries of the region.

Argentina

Needs:

- Advisory assistance for the geological and mining study of the south-western part of the province of Mendoza.
- Research on deposits related to pre-cambrian and volcanic rock foundations.

Offers:

- Regional geological mining exploration, especially selection and investigation of target areas in eastern Paraguay.
- Joint geological mining research in part of the border region between Chile and Bolivia.
- Regional and prospective study of possibilities for antimony, tin, gold, lead, and bismuth in north-eastern Argentina and south-western Bolivia.

Bolivia

Needs:

- Request for technical assistance, for a feasibility study and transfer of technology of the peninsula coal of the Copacabana region, from the highly specialized countries.
- Joint regional geological studies in regions bordering on neighbouring countries of the region.

/- Request

- Request for technical assistance in geo-technology for the basin of the city of La Paz.
- Request for technical assistance on prospecting, exploiting, processing and concentrating of radioactive minerals.
- Request for technical assistance in recommending activities which need to be carried out in order to develop programmes for mining expansion and development.
- Request for technical assistance in the formulation of programmes for the elaboration of feasibility projects, and periodic supervision of their implementation.
- Technical assistance in the selection of equipment and machinery for the different phases of exploitation.
- Technical assistance in research projects on deposits of phosphoric rock.
- Technical assistance on industrialization of non-ferrous metallic products.

Offers:

- Internationalization of the Austria-Bolivian Mining School, which trains mining professionals at the middle technical level.
- Technical assistance in the interpretation of remote sensor products as applied to the study of natural resources.
- Technical assistance in the mining veins of tin, antimony, lead, silver, and zinc in the mining and metallurgical geological field according to a plan of work.
- Technical assistance in concentrating and enrichment of Sn, Pb, Ag and Zn, under the auspices of the "Instituto de Investigaciones Minero-Metalúrgicas" (I.I.M.M.).
- Technical assistance in metallurgical processes and smelting of tin-antimony ore.

Colombia

Needs:

- Implementation of a system of information on the mining and metallurgical sector.
- Technical assistance for the use of direct reduction methods for iron ore.

/Offers:

Offers:

- Exchange of information and transfer of experience in the exploitation of bauxite and nickel ore.

Ecuador

Needs:

- Integral development programme for the Portovelo mining district.
- Co-operation on legal aspects designed to elaborate a new legal framework for the mining sector (comparative study of Latin American mining legislation).
- Technical assistance for the establishment of a national plan for the development of non-metallic minerals.
- Assistance in the establishment of a programme to develop the mining and metallurgical sector.

Guatemala

Needs:

- Training and capacitation of labour for the middle levels of the mining sector.
- Technical assistance for the organization and operation of productive units in small and medium-scale mining.
- Obtaining of scholarships of graduate and post-graduate studies in professions related to mining.

Panama

Needs:

- Technical assistance to finalize a geological map on a scale of 1:250,000 and initiation of another on a scale of 1:100,000.
- Technical assistance for the integral and systematic study of the mineral resources of the country to discover their mining potential.
- Technical assistance for the organization and promotion of small-scale mining through the formation of co-operatives, or something similar, especially to study and exploit alluvial gold, ornamental and semi-precious stones.
- Advisory assistance with its respective recommendations for the strengthening and organization of the mining sector of the country.

/Dominican Republic

Dominican Republic

Needs:

- Technical assistance through the offer of scholarships for young professionals to strengthen their knowledge by holding assistantships in the mining countries of Latin America, especially in the exploitation of both subterranean and open pit mines.

Paraguay

Needs:

- Drawing up of the national geological map.

Peru

Offers:

- Technical assistance to countries of the region to advise them on the establishments of bodies designed to promote national mining: geological, mining and metallurgical research centres, mining development banks, corporations to exploit and market minerals, etc.
- Technical assistance to countries for development in depressed areas and areas in which mining can play a major role as an activating factor in the economy of the region.
- Advisory assistance to countries for the establishment of bodies fundamentally designed to develop small and medium-scale mining with special emphasis on exploration, exploitation and processing of polymetallic and auriferous minerals.
- Organization by Peru of a School for Advanced Mining Studies, aimed at training, by means of different disciplines, Latin American professionals who already have some experience in the mining field. This school could be largely made up of professors from the region.
- Technical assistance to schools of higher mining education of some countries of the region (especially Central America and the Caribbean) in order to improve the level of some courses, implement new professorships or offer post-graduate courses.

