

**COLLABORATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
RED MEXICANA DE CUENCAS HIDROGRÁFICAS (REMEXCU)
AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LAKE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOUNDATION (ILEC)**

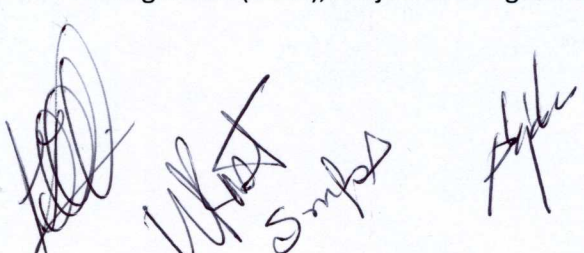
WHEREAS the Red Mexicana de Cuencas Hidrográficas (Mexican Watershed Network; hereafter referred to as REMEXCU), a group of people, organizations and institutions utilizing continuous, organized and innovative actions to strengthen integrated watershed management practices, contributes to the synergies, capacity-building and utilization of basin-level decision-making in Mexico in pursuit of conservation and sustainable management of watersheds.

WHEREAS the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (hereinafter referred to as ILEC, established in 1986 by the Shiga Prefecture under administrative guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Environment, Japan) fulfill its mission to advance international cooperation for conserving lake environments and promoting environmentally-sound management of the world's lakes and wetlands with the support of its Scientific Committee, consisting of global experts. The individual Scientific Committee members pursue this mission through investigations and research focusing on achieving harmony between environmental management and sustainable development, including compiling and analyzing scientific knowledge, information and management experiences internationally on natural and artificial (reservoirs) lake environments and other lentic water systems (hereafter collectively referred to as lakes), comprising activities consistent with the requirements stipulated in ILEC's enhanced status as a public interest incorporated foundation, as authorized by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan under the new Foundation Act in 2013.

RECOGNIZING that freshwater is an absolute requirement for all life, human health, livelihoods and socioeconomic development, and that only about 1% of the water on the surface of our planet is in liquid (unfrozen) form, with more than 90% of this quantity existing in lakes. These waterbodies provide the widest range of ecosystem goods and services provided by aquatic ecosystems, while also being the most vulnerable water systems to the impacts of global climate change.

WHEREAS REMEXCU and the ILEC Scientific Committee members, upon their individual professional capacities and judgement (hereafter collectively referred to as the "Parties"), share common goals and objectives with regard to conservation and sustainable management of lakes, their basins and their ecosystem goods and services, and ensuring their biological integrity and ecological integrity.

NOTING the Parties collaborated in organizing and convening the Mexican Watershed Congress during 29th October to 31st October 2019 at Mexico City, Mexico, pursuing joint efforts in developing and implementing the fundamental conceptual framework for Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM), subject to the goals and capabilities of the individual Party members.



NOTING that ILBM, a useful platform to ensure sound management of lakes, their basins, their resources and their ecosystem services, and becoming increasingly recognized in major international reports, including UNEP's Global Environment Outlook Reports and UN-Water's World Water Development Reports, is an important complementary conceptual framework for addressing the complex challenges associated with the sustainable use, conservation and management of lakes, and their interactions with upstream and downstream rivers and streams to which they are linked. This approach focuses on achieving sustainable management of lakes through gradual, continuous and holistic improvement of basin management, including sustained efforts for integration of institutional responsibilities, policy directions, stakeholder participation, scientific and traditional knowledge, technological possibilities, and funding prospects and constraints.

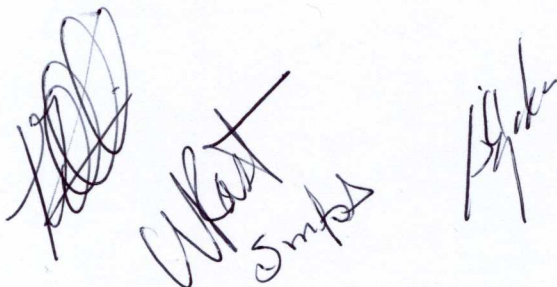
RECOGNIZING a serious lack of uniform lake data exists on a global scale, due largely to the fact that lakes have generally been ignored in the global water arena, thereby representing a missing link in global-level water fora, discussions and agreements, and making their accurate assessment and effective management problematic, with scientific and management implications.

ACCORDINGLY, the Parties pledge to collaborate as appropriate, and within their individual capabilities, in jointly embellishing data, knowledge and better understanding of lake science, management and governance challenges facing lakes, including sustainable development, use and conservation of lakes through broadly promoting ILBM within the purview of the Scientific Committee as an effective approach for addressing the difficult management challenges facing lakes on a global scale, and seeking solutions to these challenges.

The Parties also pledge to strive to develop lake briefs and associated reports describing the environmental status and management challenges of lake basins and their resources in Mexico and other countries in the Latin American region and elsewhere, and exchanging and sharing their individual lake management and governance knowledge and experiences as appropriate.

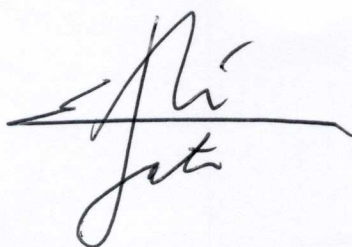
This Collaborative Agreement shall enter into effect upon the signature of the approving officials, and remain in effect until the termination of the 18th World Lake Conference, to be held at the University of Guanajuato in Guanajuato, Mexico, unless otherwise revised or extended by mutual agreement between the Parties reflected in writing. Further, this Collaborative Agreement may be terminated by either Party by giving one month prior notice to the other Party in writing.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the individuals representing REMEXCU and ILEC Scientific Committee in this Collaboration Agreement affix their signatures below in Mexico City, within the framework of the 1st Latin American and V National Congress of Watershed Management on October 31st 2019:

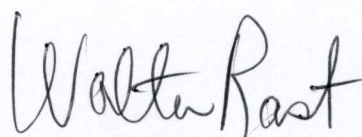


For "REMEXCU"

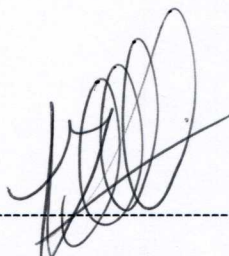
For ILEC Scientific Committee



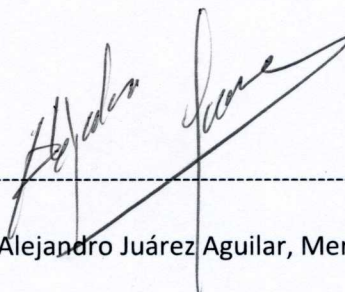
Eduardo Ríos Patrón, Co-Coordinator



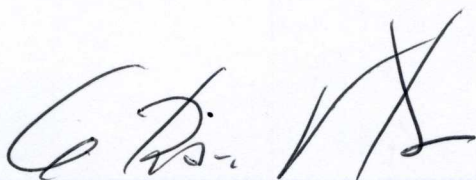
Walter Rast, Chair



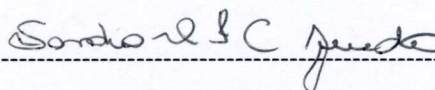
Ignacio Daniel González Mora, Co-Coordinator



Alejandro Juárez Aguilar, Member



Raúl Vera Alejandre, Co-Coordinator



Sandra Azevedo, Member