

DECLARATION¹ CONCERNING THE INTERIM COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATION OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN, SIGNED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF LAOS, THAILAND AND VIETNAM TO THE COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATION OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE LOWER MEKONG BASIN, SIGNED AT VIENTIANE ON 5 JANUARY 1978

1. Motivated by the desire to cooperate more closely in order to reap the benefits of the Development of the water resources of the lower Mekong Basin, to meet the needs for reconstruction and economic development of their respective countries;

Implementing the communique signed and published during the 33rd session of ESCAP in Bangkok on 29 April 1977, by the representatives of three riparian countries of the Mekong, concerning the reactivation of the Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin, which communique has been approved by the Governments concerned;

The representatives of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Viet-Nam and the Kingdom of Thailand have met in Vientiane from 27 to 30 July 1977 and on 5 January 1978, and have agreed to establish an Interim Committee to proceed with new water resources development activities in the lower Mekong basin that are of particular interest to the three riparian countries concerned.

2. The Interim Committee for Coordination of Investigation of the Lower Mekong Basin (hereafter called the Committee) shall consist of the representatives of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Viet-Nam and the Kingdom of Thailand.

3. The present Committee will be succeeded by the Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin once all members of the latter Committee have decided to participate in that organization.

4. The Committee shall promote the development of the water resources of the lower Mekong Basin to increase agricultural and power production, in order to meet effectively the needs for reconstruction and growing development of the countries of Indochina, and the growing economic development needs of Thailand.

5. Taking into account the need to protect the mutual interests and to guarantee the well-being of the population, each of the three member countries shall accord the others the necessary facilities for transit, purchase and sale of construction materials or products from completed projects, as well as for the security of transport and traffic on the Mekong within the framework

¹ The date of entry into force of this Declaration is assumed to be the date of the same.

of this regional co-operative effort and with a view to accomplishing the projects approved by the Committee.

6. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

7. Decisions of the Committee shall be unanimous.