



**LETTER OF INTENT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA
AND THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS, ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURE OF FLANDERS, KINGDOM OF BELGIUM**

Following the meeting of the mixed working group on July 18, 2005 in Brussels, both parties agree on the following tentative program for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding during the periode 2006-2008.

1. Documentation and exhibition material on maritime and inland waterway transport and ports will be exchanged. Both parties will inform sufficiently long time ahead, all sorts of activities and exhibitions related to ports, maritime and inland waterway transport, so that Colombian and Flemish companies and authorities can contribute with their specific applications and propaganda.
2. The Colombian Ministry of Transport will assist companies from Flanders in exploring the market, by facilitating cooperation with potential local partners / customers in Colombia and by clearing the way for the promotion of Flemish technology and know-how on a national and regional level.
3. In the year 2006, a five member senior staff delegation of the Colombian Ministry of Transport will be invited for a week visit to Flanders' port and waterway infrastructure.
4. During the period 2006-2008, a number of joint one-day-seminars will be set up in Cartagena or in another port city regarding following topics :
 - International legislation on maritime and border crossing navigation ;
 - Legal and economical aspects on maritime and waterway transport ;
 - International laws and regulations on carriage of goods by sea and by river ;
 - Maritime safety management and Port environmental protection ;
 - International bodies dealing with transport by sea and rivers ;
 - Governmental control on maritime and inland waterways transport ;
5. Each year, at least three Colombian experts will be invited to follow a two week training course at APEC – Antwerp / Flanders Port Training Center on port management, container terminal management, port logistics, port infrastructure and equipment maintenance, port environmental aspects and / or port engineering. Selection of the suitable candidates will be jointly made. The Flemish party will investigate possibilities to organize tailor-made training courses on transport logistics, safety of navigation, naval architecture, port state control, port and shipping marketing.

6. During the higher mentioned period, depending on the availability of budgets and according to Colombian priorities (the Waterways and Maritime Affairs Administration of the Department of Environment and Infrastructure in Flanders) FITA will invite experts to Flanders for a one month training on river training works and river morphology , river ports design and layout and / or pilotage training, flood control, coastal and river bank protection.
7. Flanders International Technical Agency will assist punctually the Colombian Ministry of Transport to set up of an Inland Waterway and Maritime Transportation Master Plan.
8. The Waterways and Maritime Affairs Administration of the Department of Environment and Infrastructure in Flanders will assist the Colombian Ministry of Transport in any matter of local priority such as :
 - environmental feasibility studies for inland and maritime projects;
 - supply of information in port operations'logistics;
 - supply of information on inland navigation development.

It is understood that the above tentative program is not in any way binding nor does it constitute any limitation of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Both parties will share the costs involved in the implementation of the above program. This will be considered and agreed upon in advance on a case-by-case basis.

Both parties reiterate that the cooperation between the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Colombia and the Department of Infrastructure and Environment of the Government of Flanders, Kingdom of Belgium, is based on mutual friendship and respect inspired by the friendly relationship between both countries and their people.

Made in two originals on September, 6, 2005 in Brussels.

The Minister of Transport
of the Republic of Colombia ,


Andres Uriel Gallego

The Minister of Public Works, Energy, the
Environment and Nature of Flanders,
Kingdom of Belgium,


Kris Peeters