

4. The Parties' policy is to ensure that a combination of local, state, provincial, and federal participation provide financial assistance to construct and improve publicly owned waste treatment works.

5. The Parties' respective obligations are subject to the appropriation of funds in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.

## ARTICLE 5

### Consultation, Management and Review

1. Recognizing the importance of Public input and advice, the Parties shall convene, with the Commission, a Great Lakes Public Forum within one year of entry into force of this Agreement, and every three years after the first Forum. The Great Lakes Public Forum will provide an opportunity for:

- (a) the Parties to discuss and receive Public comments on the state of the lakes and binational priorities for science and action to inform future priorities and actions; and
- (b) the Commission to discuss and receive Public input on the Progress Report of the Parties.

2. The Parties hereby establish a Great Lakes Executive Committee to help coordinate, implement, review and report on programs, practices and measures undertaken to achieve the purpose of this Agreement:

- (a) the Parties shall co-chair the Great Lakes Executive Committee and invite representatives from Federal Governments, State and Provincial Governments, Tribal Governments, First Nations, Métis, Municipal Governments, watershed management agencies, and other local public agencies;
- (b) the Parties shall convene the Great Lakes Executive Committee at least twice each year, and shall appoint Annex-specific sub-committees to the Great Lakes Executive Committee, as required, to assist in the implementation of this Agreement;