

Whereas the Committee for Coordination of Investigations of the Lower Mekong Basin (Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and the Republic of Vietnam) (hereinafter called the Mekong Committee) operating under the aegis of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East has been conducting a program of surveys of the Lower Mekong Basin in the riparian countries and in the course of such program it has been recognized that the Nam Nuan River in Laos and of the riparian States of the Mekong can be developed;

WHEREAS a feasibility study of the development of the Nam Nuan valley in Laos including the construction of a multi-purpose dam has been financed by the United Nations Special Fund and has been carried out within the framework of a bilateral aid to Laos and has been undertaken by the Mekong Committee;

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WHEREAS the Mekong Committee has as its primary objective the completion of the Nam Nuan hydroelectric Project as an integral component of the interconnection of the high tension electrical transmission networks of the two countries initially by means of the construction and operation of a transmission line which would cross their common boundary on the Mekong River;

WHEREAS the United Nations and the Mekong Committee have sought contributions to the financing of the cost of the Nam Nuan hydroelectric Project;

WHEREAS the Government of Japan has agreed to finance the detailed design of the Project under a bilateral aid to Laos and to assist in the design of the Project;

WHEREAS the Governments of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United States of America have agreed to provide funds as a grant for the Project up to twenty-two million eight hundred and fifteen thousand U.S. dollars equivalent and together with the Governments of Laos and Thailand and the United Nations have invited the Bank and the Bank has agreed to administer the funds so provided; and

WHEREAS Thailand has agreed to supply to Laos equipment for the said project for a value equivalent to one million U.S. dollars in exchange for power from the Project;

ARTICLE 1

DEFINITIONS

Section 1.01. Except where the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings whenever used in this Agreement: