## PART FIVE

## COOPERATION

## **Article 17: Cooperative Activities**

- 1. The Parties may develop programs of cooperative activities to promote the achievement of the objectives and fulfillment of the obligations under this Agreement based on their national priorities. The Parties shall strive to strengthen their cooperation on environmental issues in other bilateral, regional and multilateral forums in which they participate.
- 2. The funding of cooperative activities shall be arranged on a case-by-case basis subject to the availability of appropriate financial resources as mutually decided by the Parties.
- 3. Programs of cooperative activities may be developed with due consideration of:
  - (a) the economic, environmental, geographic, social, cultural and legal differences between the Parties;
  - (b) existing environmental cooperative activities;
  - (c) the involvement of the public, experts, and international organizations, as appropriate.
- 4. The Parties shall identify priority areas for cooperative activities and establish a work program which shall be prepared without delay after the entry into force of this Agreement. The priority areas of cooperation identified by Honduras, listed in Annex II (Environmental Cooperation), may be considered for the initial work program of cooperative activities.
- 5. The Parties shall make best efforts to effectively implement a work program through activities such as: exchange of experts; facilitation of partnerships for the transfer of knowledge and technologies; training, conferences, and workshops; joint research projects on topics of mutual interest for the purposes of promoting the development or exchange of environmental best practices, information and indicators of interest to the Parties; and, any other form of environmental cooperation that may be decided by the Parties.
- 6. The Parties shall meet within 1 year after the entry into force of this Agreement and subsequently as mutually decided in order to review progress on environmental cooperation activities.