

Regulations

AMAZON NETWORK OF WATER AUTHORITIES





Regulations of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities (ANWA)

ANWA / Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization





INDEX

Chapter 1. The Amazon Network of Water Authorities	8
Article 1.	8
Chapter 2. Objectives	8
Article 2.	8
Chapter 3. Representatives, Structure, Responsibilities and Functioning	10
Articulo 3. Representatives and Structure	10
Article 4. Functioning	10
Article 5. Presidency Responsibilities	10
Article 6. Water Authorities Meeting Attributions	11
Article 7. Secretariat Attributions	11
Article 8. Specialized Technical Panel Attributions	12
Article 9. Participation of Observers and Guests	12
Chapter 4. Other Issues	12
Article 10. Revisions in the Regulations	12



Regulations of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities (ANWA)

Considering

That in the Belém Declaration, the Presidents of State Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), meeting in the city of Belém do Pará, on August 9, 2023, HAVE DECIDED TO Establish the Network of Water Authorities of ACTO States Parties for cooperation in the sustainable management of regional water resources;

That the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Members Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization RESOLVES TO ESTABLISH the Amazonian Network of Water Authorities of the Member States of ACTO (ANWA or RADA, in Spanish), created during the Belem Summit of August 06th, for cooperation in the sustainable management of water resources in the region;

That the XIV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Members Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization RESOLVES TO INSTRUCT Permanent Secretariat to convene, in the first semester of 2024, the First Meeting of the Amazonian Network of Water Authorities (RADA) for the approval of its by-laws the development of a work plan and a schedule to guide the implementation of its objectives, among others.

That the implementation of the Strategic Action Program (SAP): Regional Strategy for Integrated Water Resources Management in the Amazon Basin, adopted by Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), provides for permanent coordination and cooperation for the integrated and sustainable management of water resources in the Amazon Region/Basin;

The Water Authorities of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), gathered at their first meeting, in Brasilia, on April 17-18, 2024, consolidated the present Regulations of the Amazonian Network of Water Authorities (RADA), which were approved at their second meeting, held on October 4, 2024.

CHAPTER 1. THE AMAZON NETWORK OF WATER AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE 1.

- 1.1. Regulate the Amazon Network of Water Authorities (hereby ANWA) functioning, that was created as a permanent space for participation and coordination, with operational and technical purposes, to expand dialogue, exchange of information, and technical cooperation of its activities between countries, with a view to promoting the strengthening of the public policies of the ACTO Member Countries.
- 1.2. For the purposes of these regulations, “authority” refers to the person/entity/institution with responsibilities, attributions and/or competencies designated by each Member State for water resources management.
- 1.3. For the purposes of conforming the Amazon Network of Water Authorities (ANWA), the scope of application will be the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), in the Amazonian Basin/Region of the respective Member Countries of ACTO, according to article II of ACT.

CHAPTER 2. OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE 2.

- 2.1. The objectives of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities are as follows:

- I. Promote regional cooperation for Integrated Water Resources Management – IWRM in the countries of the Amazon Basin/Region, including South-South Cooperation, for capacity strengthening, technology transfer, professional training, and exchange of experiences, including at the community and scientific levels, respecting the national laws of the Member Countries.
- II. Foster searching and mobilization of financial non-refundable resources to support the sustainability of water management initiatives and institutions, including ACTO.
- III. Support the achievement of ACTO’s objectives in implementing the Strategic Action Programme (hereby SAP), including its institutional sustainability.
- IV. Contribute to the strengthening of an integrated, multi-level, and multisectoral information and monitoring system for the Amazon Basin in the framework of the Amazon Regional Observatory (ARO), with the objective of supporting decision-making process in water management at the country and regional levels, as well as monitoring capacities to guarantee the sustainability of regional information systems.
- V. Encourage the creation of early warning systems, considering the adaptation and mitigation needs by climate change effects.
- VI. Contribute to the strengthening and harmonization of water management policies in a coordinated manner, including cooperation among national, regional, and international institutions and organizations.
- VII. Foster dialogue to harmonize regulatory frameworks for water management in the region, respecting the sovereignty of countries.
- VIII. Support the exchange of data and information between countries in a timely and accurate manner, in accordance with the national legislation of the Member Countries, with the aim of promoting adequate hydrological and water quality monitoring in the Amazon region within the framework of the ORA platform (Amazon Regional Observatory).
- IX. Promote coordinated actions to guarantee the human right to drinking water and sanitation, balance and harmony with ecosystems linked to water and their healthy balance with food and energy needs in the Amazon.
- X. Establish regional hydrological and water quality monitoring protocols.
- XI. Promote cooperation and mutual support in the management of water resources in the Amazon by the States Parties, for the revitalization, conservation and protection of water sources and basins.
- XII. Establish water quality criteria and parameters, harmonizing the criteria and parameters for monitoring the quality of surface water, groundwater or discharges into transboundary water bodies or aquifers among Member Countries.
- XIII. Support the implementation of regional surface and groundwater projects and initiatives, planning and cooperation in the sustainable management of water resources, including transboundary ones.
- XIV. Support the progressive strengthening of technical, technological and institutional capacities, technological innovation and intercultural dialogue, in line with national circumstances, including political, social and cultural commitments of each country.
- XV. Promote the improvement of monitoring capabilities through the strengthening of national monitoring networks for the generation of alerts of environmental risks, human health, disasters and extreme events of a hydrometeorological nature to the populations of the Amazon.
- XVI. Contribute to environmental planning, development of protocols and actions for the prevention, management and mitigation of the impacts of natural disasters and to support water management as an instrument for prevention, adaptation and mitigation of the effects of climate change, combating hunger, ensuring the quality and quantity of the waters of the Amazon basin, for this and future generations.
- XVII. Promote the strengthening of actions to monitor the quality of water for human consumption in the region, including that affecting indigenous peoples and local and traditional communities, through joint technical-scientific studies and research.

CHAPTER 3. REPRESENTATIVES, STRUCTURE, RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONING

ARTICULO 3. REPRESENTATIVES AND STRUCTURE

3.1. Within the framework of this Regulation, the ANWA representatives will be officially designated to the Permanent Secretariat of ACTO according to the following:

- I. General Directors, Executive Directors/Authorities of the Agencies and/or Entities responsible for the administration, planning and management of water resources sector of the ACTO Member Countries, or whoever takes its place, and their alternate;
- II. A technical representative who will take part of the ANWA Specialized Technical Support Panel.

3.1. The ANWA has the following structure:

- I. Presidency;
- II. Water Authorities Meeting;
- III. Specialized Technical Support Panel;
- IV. Secretariat (to be performed by the ACTO Permanent Secretariat).

ARTICLE 4. FUNCTIONING

4.1. The Presidency will be rotating, with a duration of 2 years, in alphabetical order of Member Countries.

4.2. The ANWA will meet preferably once a year, additional meetings can be realized in online or hybrid format.

4.3. Decisions will be approved unanimously, as established by the TCA, and will be communicated to the central bodies of the ACTO or elevated if they require treatment at another instance.

4.4. The languages of the Network are the same as those of the ACTO (Spanish, English, Portuguese and Dutch).

ARTICLE 5. PRESIDENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1. The responsibilities of the Presidency will be as follows:

- I. Preside over meetings and guide the work of the Network.
- II. Organize and convene, together with the Secretariat, Network meetings.
- III. Define the agenda of priorities for discussion at Network meetings.
- IV. Represent the Network in the institutional scope of ACTO and other spaces agreed by the countries.

ARTICLE 6. WATER AUTHORITIES MEETING ATTRIBUTIONS

6.1. The attributions of the Water Authorities Meeting will be as follows:

- I. Develop and approve the strategic plan of the Network and the consequent biennial work plans, within the scope of the SAP and other ACTO's planning instruments.
- II. Promote the exchange of experiences in water resource management among ANWA representatives.
- III. Mobilize other academic, cultural, community, and scientific actors involved or interested in water resource management to share experiences and knowledge.
- IV. Propose a regional training and capacity-building plan to enhance water management capabilities in countries.
- V. Promote the participation of the Association of the Amazonian Universities (UNAMAZ) for the development of training programs on water resources.
- VI. Conduct an assessment and revision of progress and compliance of ANWA work plan.
- VII. Support the Permanent Secretariat of the ACTO in seeking nonrefundable funding for ANWA work plans and other initiatives.
- VIII. Contribute from the technical roles and functions the design, implementation and evaluation of projects proposed within the scope of the ACTO.
- IX. Propose new initiatives to the ACTO based on a regional vision for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Amazon Basin/Region.
- X. Those which, in relation to its purpose, are entrusted to it by the decision-making bodies of the ACTO.

ARTICLE 7. SECRETARIAT ATTRIBUTIONS

7.1. The responsibilities of the Secretariat will be:

- I. Organize and convene meetings of the Amazon Network of Water Authorities of the ANWA, after coordination with the Presidency with due time in advance, except for special cases.
- II. Facilitate communication and coordination between countries.
- III. Develop and safeguard documentation produced within the ANWA.
- IV. Coordinate and mobilize resources and contributions with countries to ensure the functioning of the ANWA.
- V. Maintain a record and disclosure of all resource contributions (financial or other) received from countries for the ANWA functioning.

- VI. Consolidate and present ANWA results to national authorities, with the objective of contributing to the improvement of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).
- VII. Support the dissemination of knowledge produced with the ANWA support.
- VIII. Circulate, not less than fifteen calendar days prior to the meeting, the documents to be submitted to the consideration of the Authorities

ARTICLE 8. SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL PANEL ATTRIBUTIONS

- I. Will be made up of the technical specialists designated by the ANWA Water Authorities.
- II. The Technical Support Panel will support the substantive preparation and development of the Meeting of Water Authorities, in the conformation of the working plans and will address technical and logistical issues, in coordination with the instructions of the Presidency.
- III. Will present the work plan proposal to the ANWA Presidency.

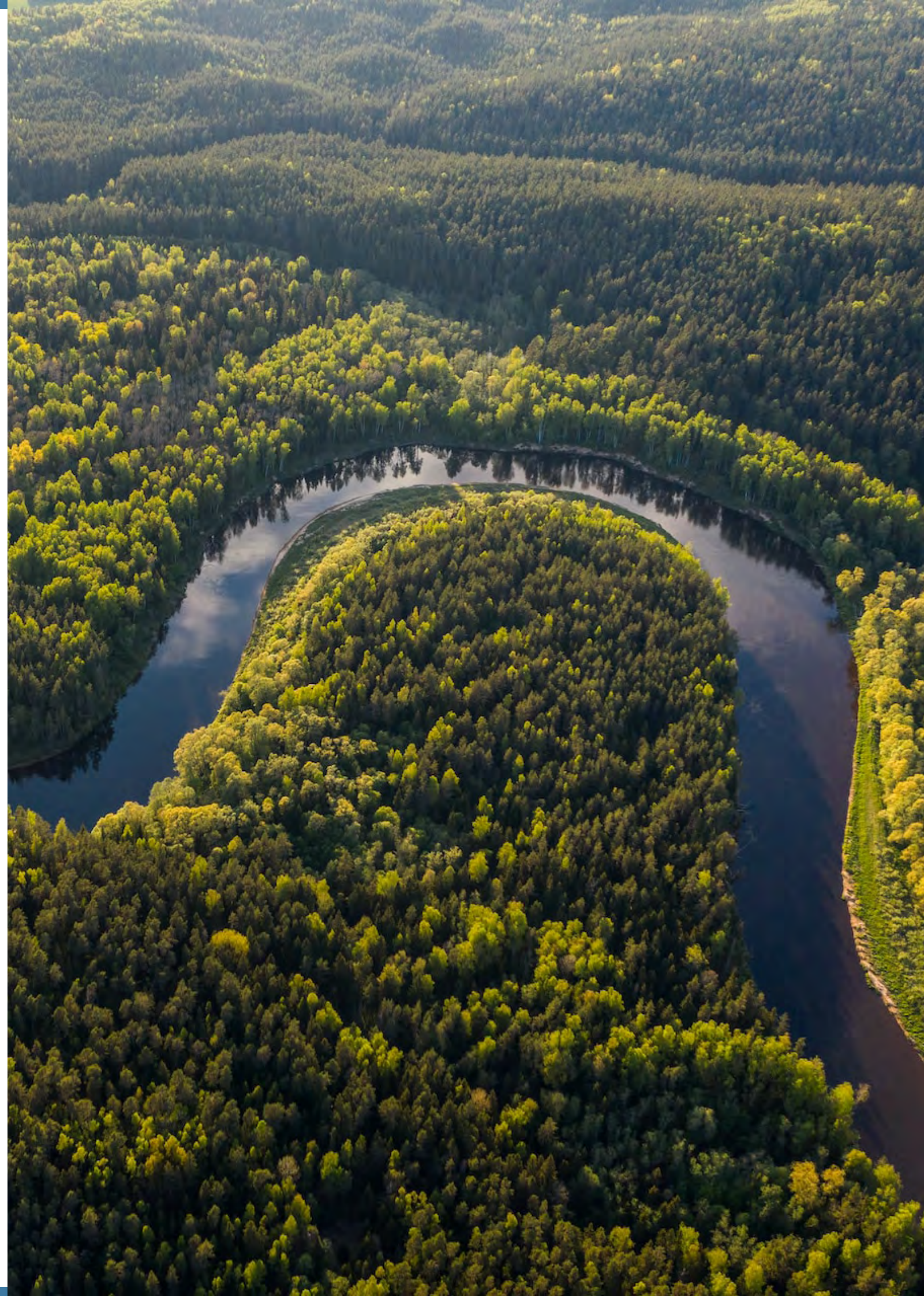
ARTICLE 9. PARTICIPATION OF OBSERVERS AND GUESTS

- I. The political focal points of ACTO shall be granted permanent observer status in order to attend ANWA meetings.
- II. When deemed convenient, the ANWA may issue special invitations to personalities, researchers or other outstanding entities in fields of interest, to participate with an opinion, without decision, in the meetings of the ANWA or the Specialized Technical Panel.

CHAPTER 4. OTHER ISSUES

ARTICLE 10. REVISIONS IN THE REGULATIONS

- 10.1. These regulations may be amended by decision of the Meeting of Water Authorities.





Find out more
about ANWA:

