PART III

THE BINATIONAL COMMISSIONS AND SUBSEQUENT PRACTICE
1. Institutional Aspects

Since it was set up in 1977, the Administrative Commission for the Río de la Plata established by the Treaty has developed its activity without interruption. Its permanent operation is a distinctive mark of this binational organization. Its formal establishment took place on Martín García Island on 29 March 1977, before the Ministers of Foreign Affairs for the member States, national delegations and special guests. On the same date, the Administrative Commission met for the first time in the Palacio San Martín of the city of Buenos Aires, seat of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The first Presidency of the Commission was held by the President of the Argentine delegation and the first Vice-President was the President of the Uruguayan delegation in accordance with the rotation set out in the Statute.

In the meeting that took place in March 1977, the draft of the Headquarters’ Agreement between the Commission and the Argentine Government was approved and was subsequently signed on 18 April 1977. The Agreement was subject to the approval by the Argentine Government, as it expressly states so, and entered into force on 5 April 1978, the date in which the ratification was notified to the

1 Article 61 of the Treaty.
2 Ambassadors D. José María Alvarez de Toledo and D. Luis María de Posadas Montero, respectively.
3 Article 9 of the Statute, approved on 15 July 1974, which establishes that the Presidency and Vice Presidency “shall be undertaken on an yearly rotational basis by the presidents of each Delegation.”
4 Article 14, Headquarters Agreement.