

**COLLABORATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
RED MEXICANA DE CUENCAS HIDROGRÁFICAS (REMEXCU)
AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LAKE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FOUNDATION (ILEC)**

WHEREAS the Red Mexicana de Cuencas Hidrográficas (Mexican Watershed Network; hereafter referred to as REMEXCU), a group of people, organizations and institutions utilizing continuous, organized and innovative actions to strengthen integrated watershed management practices, contributes to the synergies, capacity-building and utilization of basin-level decision-making in Mexico in pursuit of conservation and sustainable management of watersheds.

WHEREAS the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation (hereinafter referred to as ILEC, established in 1986 by the Shiga Prefecture under administrative guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Environment, Japan) fulfill its mission to advance international cooperation for conserving lake environments and promoting environmentally-sound management of the world's lakes and wetlands with the support of its Scientific Committee, consisting of global experts. The individual Scientific Committee members pursue this mission through investigations and research focusing on achieving harmony between environmental management and sustainable development, including compiling and analyzing scientific knowledge, information and management experiences internationally on natural and artificial (reservoirs) lake environments and other lentic water systems (hereafter collectively referred to as lakes), comprising activities consistent with the requirements stipulated in ILEC's enhanced status as a public interest incorporated foundation, as authorized by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan under the new Foundation Act in 2013.

RECOGNIZING that freshwater is an absolute requirement for all life, human health, livelihoods and socioeconomic development, and that only about 1% of the water on the surface of our planet is in liquid (unfrozen) form, with more than 90% of this quantity existing in lakes. These waterbodies provide the widest range of ecosystem goods and services provided by aquatic ecosystems, while also being the most vulnerable water systems to the impacts of global climate change.

WHEREAS REMEXCU and the ILEC Scientific Committee members, upon their individual professional capacities and judgement (hereafter collectively referred to as the "Parties"), share common goals and objectives with regard to conservation and sustainable management of lakes, their basins and their ecosystem goods and services, and ensuring their biological integrity and ecological integrity.

NOTING the Parties collaborated in organizing and convening the Mexican Watershed Congress during 29th October to 31st October 2019 at Mexico City, Mexico, pursuing joint efforts in developing and implementing the fundamental conceptual framework for Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM), subject to the goals and capabilities of the individual Party members.



