EXTENSION OF THE AGREEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF THE LIELUPE RIVER BASIN

The Contracting Parties,

the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia,

and

the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania,

AWARE of the considerable pollution of the waters of the Lielupe River Basin;

MINDFUL of the interrelationships between surface and groundwater, between upstream and downstream users and conditions, and between inland and coastal waters as well as marine waters of the Baltic Sea;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of the flow and the quality of the water resource for household and industrial supply, for recreational purposes, and for upholding natural values and diversity of species;

ENDORISING the provision and principles of the 1992 Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, in particular Article 6, Paragraph 4;

RECOGNIZING the need for a comprehensive and effective management system;

APPROVING of the role of the Liclupe River Basin as a pilot area for implementation of river basin management, from which the favorable experiences may be applied to the management of other river basins within the Baltic Sea area;

AFFIRMING the ultimate goal of establishing a convention on environmental management of the Lielupe River Basin;

HAVE AGREED that the Agreement on Environmental Management of the Lielupe River Basin which was signed by the Contracting Parties of Latvia and Lithuania on May 25, 1993, and was amended by the July 6, 1994 Letter of Agreement between the Contracting Parties will continue to be valid and the mandate of the organs as established for its implementation expire December 31, 1997. At the termination of this Agreement the Contracting Parties may sign a permanent agreement claborated on during the Project period.

Done on July 21, 1995 in the English language.

For the Republic of Latvia

For the Republic of Lithuania

B. Bannes