MRCTI Global River Talks
Sustaining the World’s Food-Producing River Basins

International Summit of Great River
ROME, 2017
The Mississippi River:

- Largest Agricultural Trade footprint
- Largest Navigable system
- Sustains most agriculturally productive zone
The Mississippi River:

$500 billion in Annual Revenue
1.5 million US Jobs

Top 3 economies are
- Manufacturing
- Tourism
- Agriculture

Largest USDA Critical Conservation Area in US
The Mississippi River:

40% of all US agricultural output
60% of US grain output
Makes possible United States’ only trade surplus
Almost a half trillion dollars in gross municipal product
Mississippi River Cities & Towns Initiative:
80 Mayor-Lead Municipalities
5000 km of Waterway
10 States
1 River
Recent Climate Impacts:

Hurricane Katrina
Hurricane Isaac
100, 200, 500-Year Floods
50-year Drought

$200 billion in impacts since 2005

$51 billion in impacts since 2011

$10+ billion in impacts in 2016
St. Paul, MN

St. Louis

Natchez, MS

Baton Rouge

New Orleans

Present-day shoreline
GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL ZONES

Million hectares of land used for traditional crops

- Canadian Prairie Provinces: 27
- Greater Mississippi Basin: 139
- Atlantic Coastal Plain: 6
- North European Plain: 65
- Fertile Crescent: 28
- Ganges Basin: 45
- Eurasian Steppe: 106
- Yellow River Region: 42
- Java: 7
- Murray-Darling Basin: 11

*Does not include pastureland
Mississippi River Basin:

31 states
2 Canadian Provinces
40% unused capacity

$164 billion in ag exports and
Domestic supply
Proposal for COP 23 Agenda, Nov 10

Over 35% of world’s traditional cropland is in river basins

World’s river basins are being impacted by climate change

Healthy rivers equals a sustainable food supply

Healthy rivers equals access to fresh clean drinking water

Create a dedicated investment mechanism to sustain our food-producing river basins
America is a Partner in this work

Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in the basins of rivers, lakes, and aquifers

International River Basin Agreement to mitigate climate risk by achieving food and water security