



**United Nations Environment Programme
Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean**

PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

**Fifteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment
of Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Caracas, Venezuela
31st October to 4th November 2005**

B. MINISTERIAL SEGMENT
3rd – 4th November 2005

Distribution:

Limited

UNEP/LAC-IG.XV/6

Thursday 4th November 2005

Original: Spanish

Final Report of the Preparatory Meeting of Experts

Introduction

1. The Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (Panama, November 2003) made the necessary agreements to undertake the implementation of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC in Spanish), which is part of the Johannesburg Implementation Plan. Eight priority areas were selected; and the concrete activities that form the Regional Action Plan (RAP) were identified.

2. The Panama Declaration, made at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, established the policy basis on which, according to the Region's Ministers, the Latin America and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC in Spanish) should be implemented. In particular, it was underlined the importance of applying the principles related to the cross-cutting nature of some themes, common but differentiated responsibility, regionalization, the priority that should be given to the SIDS, the importance of advancing towards an open trade system, the inclusion of civil society, and financing for sustainable development. These basic cross-sectoral policies should be taken into account in the deliberations of the agenda items.

3. In the past two years, the countries of the region have made specific progress in implementing the ILAC and have gained valuable experience in making the RAP serve as an instrument for focusing on regional priorities and advancing towards the environmental sustainability proposed in the seventh Millennium Development Goal and the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan.

Objectives of the meeting

4. The Meeting of Experts fulfilled the objective of formulating recommendations to the Ministers and Heads of delegation participating in the Fifteenth Meeting of the Forum on the implementation of the ILAC in relation to its implementation mechanisms and with regard to the lines of action the RAP 2006-2007 should

follow, particularly in the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan. The Meeting of Experts also reviewed the agreements and results of multilateral environmental forums held during the inter-sessional period and decided on the position the region should take at future international discussions and negotiations, particularly those related to water resources and access to genetic resources and the equitable distribution of benefits arising from their utilization.

Participation

5. The Preparatory Meeting of Experts was attended by 72 delegates from 28 countries of the region. It was also attended by representatives of 33 international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and special guests. The list of participants appears as **Annex II** to this document.

Agenda item 1: Opening Ceremony

6. The meeting commenced with the opening ceremony on Monday, 31st October 2005 by Ms. Ligia Castro de Doens, General Administrator of the National Environment Authority of Panama, who stated that the Republic of Panama transferred the presidency of this Forum to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, represented by the Minister Jacqueline Faria Pineda. Thus, there is a new leadership in the endeavour to guide the effort shared by all in the task of consolidating and taking this model of cooperation and environmental integration to new goals, which have already earned the respect of insiders and outsiders. She mentioned that over the last two years, the Republic of Panama complied with the responsibility of leading the process of regional environment integration, which had made it possible to accomplish significant goals in the common undertaking of protecting the natural resources and environment of our countries. She thanked the Executive Secretariat for the support given to her as Chair of the Forum of Ministers and wished success for Venezuela in the task to be undertaken.

7. Ms. Jacqueline Faria Pineda, Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Government of Venezuela, welcomed the participants from the countries in the region and emphasized that the Latin American and Caribbean countries have been called to lead in the task of saving the planet for the benefit of future generations by changing unsustainable production and consumption patterns. She acknowledged the work done by Panama in the Presidency of the Forum of Ministers and she promised to continue with the task. She stressed the contributions made by the Dialogue of Environment Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development that took place two days ago and believed that the recommendations of such dialogue constituted a significant contribution.

Agenda Item 2: Organization of the works

2.1. Adoption of the meeting regulation

8. The Meeting of Experts decided to adopt, *mutatis mutandi*, the Rules of Procedure of the UNEP Governing Council to govern the proceedings of this meetings.

2.2. Election of Officers

9. According to practice, the Chair, Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur were elected to preside over the Preparatory Meeting of Experts as follows:

President:	Venezuela
Vice-President:	Jamaica
	Nicaragua
	Chile
	Uruguay
	Dominican Republic
Rapporteur	Mexico

10. Mr. Ernesto Paiva, Vice Minister of Water, Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela assumed the Presidency of the Meeting of Experts. He thanked the Republic of Panama for the work done during the period it held the Presidency of the Forum and expressed his conviction that the countries would collaborate with him in performing the activities of the Chair of the Meeting.

2.3. Approval of the Agenda and the schedule of meeting sessions

11. The Provisional Agenda (**UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/1**), the Provisional Annotated Agenda and the Timetable of Sessions proposed by the Secretariat (**UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/2**) were adopted.

Agenda Item 3: Evaluation of advances in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC).

3.1. Activities of the member Agencies of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee (ITC) and the coordinating countries of the Working Groups for the implementation of the Regional Action Plan 2004-2005

12. Document **UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/3** was presented for the consideration of this agenda item. It contains an updated report on the measures adopted to carry out the priority activities of the Regional Action Plan for the biennial 2004-2005. Additionally, the Report on the First Meeting of the CTI 2005 (Panama, 12th and 13th July 2005 (**UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/Inf.4**)) was considered. Furthermore, document **UNEP/LAC IGWG.XV/4**, which contains the various proposals on the functioning of the Work Groups, was presented.

13. After the presentation of the working documents and reports, the Presidency invited the implementing agencies of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee to comment on the activities carried out to contribute to the implementation of the Regional Action Plan in the biennial 2004-2005.

14. The Regional Director of UNEP for Latin America and the Caribbean express his solidarity with the countries affected by hurricanes that have led to considerable

human and material losses in reference to which he expressed his desire that measures would be agreed upon to expand collaboration in terms of the prevention and remedial measures of and for such events. Additionally, he stressed that it had been very important and productive to have the collaboration of the agencies that are part of ITC (World Bank, IADB, UNDP and UNEP). He also emphasized the increase in activities concerning technical support and the building of capacities in the biennial 2004-2005, particularly in reference to environment assessment at a national and regional level, in the GEO Cities and GEO Youth, in the field of environment law, integrated management of ecosystems, change in production and consumption patterns, cleaner production, trade and the environment. He also attached special relevance to the promotion of the GEF projects being carried out in the region and said that activity at a subregional level has increased, with associations being formed with subregional bodies to attend to the needs proposed by the countries of the region. UNEP also supported the work of the Caribbean SIDS in the Mauritius Meeting and in working directly with their governments.

15. The ECLAC representative mentioned that the Commission has focused its work in the biennial 2004-2006 on specific areas: financing for sustainable development in collaboration with UNDP, assessments of environment performance and particularly policy effectiveness. They have also worked on the promotion of dialogue amongst governments and civil society in the fields of rights to access of information, public participation, environment justice and have support activities concerning environment indicators and sustainable development. Climate change has been a priority subject and they have coordinated with the regional consultations in preparation for the CSD meetings. He stated that there would be further information given during the ECLAC thematic presentations.

16. The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) representative mentioned that the subject of water resources, especially the integrated management of water, is highly relevant in terms of loans and cooperation projects, which coincides with the priority given to the subject in the Forum of Ministers. The issues relating to biodiversity and genetic resources are subject to specific collaboration projects with the Amazonia Cooperation Treaty; while climate change and renewable energy have taken on greater relevance. The Bank jointly coordinates the subject of trade and the environment with other ITC agencies, particularly in the area of capacity building.

17. The UNDP representative reported that the activities of the Programme had been focused on the financing mechanisms for sustainable development and on economic and fiscal instruments. Additionally, support has been given to projects concerning the economic value of environment services and the development of methodologies. Other activities of UNDP include the documentation of the economic value of the environment, climate change (adaptation and mitigation), integrated water management. In the area of climate change mitigation, UNDP has worked in energy efficiency, bio-fuels, design and support for countries in the preparation of document and reports for international meetings on preservation of the environment, minimization of poverty and contribution the Millennium Development Goals. UNDP is methodically building a knowledge platform base that promotes debates amongst the scientific community and south/south cooperation. This platform will be available in 2006.

18. The World Bank representative mentioned that a support programme is underway to attain progress in the solution of priority environment problems, working particularly with non environment authorities which are sometimes reluctant to get involved in environmental issues, such as fuel prices, sustainable tourism, urban environment agenda, climate change (where it has the widest portfolio of projects); the Bank has undertaken actions related to the large regional ecosystems of the Amazon and now work they with natural protected areas in Peru, Colombia, Bolivia and Mexico. Project activities related to air quality and sustainable transport in the region's larger cities, for example, Santiago and Mexico City. The water agenda is very important; water legislation in the countries of the region is being updated. The strategic environment assessments in which the Bank is participating includes: energy, transport, tourism, forests and fishing. The WB recommended having more strategic approaches to the management of protected areas, integrated water management and environment assessment.

19. After the above presentations, the Meeting of Experts proceeded to consider the issue regarding the Operation of the Working Groups for which, the Secretariat, in consultation with the members of the ITC, prepared a set of proposals contained in document **UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/4**. The Secretariat presented this document, and stated that it included a fairly short list of proposals and opened to consideration by the experts.

20. During the debate about the operation of the Working Groups, the experiences of some coordinating countries were reviewed, reaffirming the desirability of reassessing their operations and mandates. Several delegations were in favour of ensuring that each Work Group ensure the participation of some ITC agencies because experience has shown that such participation had fostered better follow up of the Forum of Ministers' decisions.

21. In the debate, various delegations indicated the need to have the groups oriented towards achieving concrete results and mention was made of the importance of continuing the work of some of the work groups already established, for example, the case of Climate Change, and to ensure that such follow-up bodies have ties with subregional agendas and to have the involvement of the Implementing agencies and in particular UNEP. There was also a proposal to establish work groups that focusing on the priorities of the Caribbean SIDS. It was accepted that the review of the operation of the work groups should be related to discussion and proposals related to the Regional Action Plan 2006-2007. The prioritization of work should be guided by the ILAC.

22. The Chair requested Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Chile, Mexico to prepare a proposal for consideration of the Ministerial Segment, based on the document presented by the Secretariat.

3.2. Review of the implementation status of the decisions of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers

23. Under this agenda item a detailed evaluation was made of the application of decisions of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers. In the presentation of this item, the Meeting of Experts received a report prepared by the Secretariat

that listed the results of the implementation of the decisions adopted in the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, including the measures adopted by UNEP/ROLAC in order to comply with decision 2 concerning the Regionalization of the UNEP Work Programme (**UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/5**). The Report of the First Meeting of the ITC 2005, held in Panama City, Panama on 12th and 13th July 2005 (**UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/Inf.4**) was also circulated.

24. The Chair called the attention of the experts to the convenience of considering the agreements and proposals resulting from international and regional fora and meetings, such as the Mauritius Strategy to advance the implementation of the Plan of Action for Sustainable Development in SIDS; the proposals of the Regional Workshop on the Access to Genetic Resources and Equal and Fair Sharing of the Benefits Derived from their Use, and Associated Traditional Knowledge (Havana, Cuba, 21-22 June 2005); the Declaration of Mar del Plata adopted during the Meeting of Ministers of Health and Environment of the Americas, (Mar del Plata, Argentina, 14-19 June 2005), and the Report of the Third Meeting of the Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Production and Consumption of Latin America and the Caribbean (Managua, Nicaragua, 3-5 August 2005).

25. The review process began with Decision 3 on the Regional Implementation of UNEP's Work Plan. In this regard, the Regional Director of UNEP for Latin America and the Caribbean observed that UNEP has been working on the implementation of the strategy submitted to the XIV Forum of Ministers held in Panama in 2003. Therefore, the presence of UNEP in the subregions has been strengthened, including the Southern Cone, the Caribbean SIDS, Central America and the Andean Region through the appointment of Regional Officers to cater to the specific needs of such subregions. He also introduced Ms. Lesly Puyol, recently appointed Regional Deputy Director, and stated that her role is key for the team working with the countries in the region. Wider cooperation with other subregional institutions has also been promoted, including the ITC agencies, the Pan-American Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization and the Secretariats of different conventions, particularly the Regional Office of the Montreal Protocol Secretariat. This shows that UNEP's Regional Office makes a good partner for the implementation of Conventions. In the case of SIDS, the activities will improve in line with the Mauritius Action Plan and the Bali Strategic Plan. These should provide the context to set future regional action.

26. Regarding Decision 4 on SIDS, a detailed report on the activities performed by UNEP/ROLAC was presented.

27. Several delegations of Caribbean SIDS acknowledged the activities completed so far and expressed their hope that cooperation continues, particularly for the implementation of the Mauritius Action Plan and the Bali Strategic Plan, south/south cooperation, trade and environment, climate change, biosafety, involvement of the civil society.

28. ECLAC gave its support for continued work with the Caribbean SIDS. The representatives of ITC agencies expressed their interest in continued cooperation to cater to the needs of these countries.

29. The President requested the preparation of a draft decision to the delegations of Saint Lucia, Barbados and Jamaica.

30. The representative of ECLAC observed that the report of the Secretariat on the implementation of Decision 5, Financial Mechanism, includes the activities of the Commission, and that some of them were jointly performed with UNDP. He advanced that they will continue to work on capacity-building activities through a course on funds for sustainable development.

31. With regard to the economic valuation of environmental goods and services, the meeting exchanged different points of view and acknowledge that this kind of valuation is relevant as a starting point to establish the necessary dialogue and make progress in the broadness of government policies, ensuring the inclusion of environmental issues. The meeting discussed successful experiences in natural resources valuation and the adoption of programs aiming at the collection of environmental services charges. The economic valuation of environmental resources is important to allow for policy decisions and prioritization in management. Environmental policies should be comprehensive and thorough, and include indicators on poverty reduction.

32. Several delegations noted that capacity and policy development skills will be required, as often national capacities are not available to adequately access development projects particularly with international private developers. This is especially so for large scale tourism development in the SIDS.

33. The importance of linking environmental and social policies was acknowledged during the discussion, particularly poverty reduction-oriented policies. The World Bank highlighted that there is a general fatigue in the direct funding of projects with a primary environmental focus, emphasis is now more placed on cross-sectoral issues that include the environment. In using this cross sectoral approach all sectors should be involved and the private sector and civil society should participate as well. The increase in IADB funding for projects that include environmental objectives in areas related to transport, tourism and other sectors that entice the interest of fiscal authorities was highlighted. National accounting practices should include environmental issues as part of the countries' gross national product.

34. The Chair request to the delegations of Antigua y Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Dominica, Granada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago to prepare a drat decision that would later be submitted to the consideration of the Ministers.

35. The Representative of UNEP/ROLAC presented a summary on the implementation of Decision 6 as adopted by the Thirteenth Meeting of the Forum of the Ministers held in Panama. Particular emphasis was placed on the activities performed by civil society organizations through joint, solid and ever-increasing efforts. Regarding training, the activities have included the participation of young people, women, parliamentarians, commentators, journalists, judges and even agricultural and indigenous organizations.

36. Regarding the Dialogue of Environmental Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development held on 29th – 30th October in Caracas, Mr. Sandro Chávez presented the recommendations and agreements

reached during the exchange of views. Firstly, he acknowledged the support provided by UNEP/ROLAC, which has facilitated the participation of civil society. He then referred to three specific agreements: the consolidation of the Coordinating Office for Civil Society Partnerships; the incorporation of four subregions, and the creation of the Executive Secretariat. Finally, he mentioned a proposal that was raised during the dialogue to establish a working group and ensure that the proposals presented during the meeting are taken up and endorsed under a Forum decision.

37. Several delegations expressed the importance their countries gave to the participation of civil society organizations, and commented on their relevant experiences. The Delegation of Venezuela reiterated its offer to support the establishment of and host the Executive Secretariat proposed during the Dialogue. The representatives of ITC agencies mentioned the projects designed to promote the participation of the civil society in environmental issues.

38. The Chair request to the delegation Chile, Argentina, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad y Tobago y Venezuela to prepare a draft proposal for a decision on the participation of civil society.

39. Regarding decision 7 on water resources, the delegation of Mexico delivered a summary of the actions undertaken for its implementation. Particular emphasis was placed on the need to strengthen the cooperation to confront water scarcity and unequal access to water resources that are both vital and limited. The delegation presented a summary of the initiatives jointly promoted by the countries as a region in international fora where the issue of water resources was addressed, particularly the Twenty-third Governing Council of UNEP and the Thirteenth Meeting of the CSD.

40. The experts and representatives of ITC implementing agencies discussed the issue of water at length. The representative of The World Bank presented a summary of several water-related projects it is implementing throughout the region with a view to promoting water resources management, and described examples of projects in Brazil, Jamaica and Colombia, as well as small loans granted to NGOs, universities and individuals. He also mentioned the ample participation expected at the IV World Water Forum.

41. The representative of IDB said that water is one of the priority issues to the organization and it constitutes the main sphere of its financial operations given the links between the millennium development goals, especially those related to poverty reduction. He went on to state that governance is a key item in the water agenda. The representative of UNDP mentioned the actions that this organization is carrying out in the framework of the IV World Water Forum, specifically through the initiative called Blue Gender Agenda, as well as projects linking water and health in rural areas.

42. Several delegations commented on their national experiences related to the issue of water. They emphasized initiatives to promote the economic valuation of water and the fluctuations in the supply of water due to the changing patterns of rain. Water shortage is a critical problem in SIDS, thus resorting to technologies for the collection of rain has become a relevant option. Likewise, the adequate

management of marine and coastal waters is a priority in SIDS. The delegates also highlighted the need to build national capacities for water management and the importance of having access to the necessary financial resources to implement policies for the integrated management of water resources.

43. The Chair requested to the delegations Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, y Trinidad y Tobago to prepare a draft proposal on the matter.

44. Regarding decision 8 on the access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, UNEP/ROLAC presented some of the actions designed to support the development of national legislation frameworks, highlighting the cooperation implemented with Panama and Chile, and the strengthening of Peru's biodiversity unit, national strategy and the Andean subregion, as well as the training activities provided to indigenous communities. Regional training activities on environmental law targeted to public servants in the judiciary, the legislature and the executive power were also discussed.

45. The delegation of Cuba delivered a comprehensive presentation on the recommendations agreed by the Workshop held in Havana on June 2005. They particularly underscored the fact that the participants to the workshop identified the elements to integrate a common regional stand in the process to negotiate an international regime for the access to and sharing of benefits, and that such elements may provide relevant input to the drafting of a ministerial decision. Several delegations reaffirmed their support to the recommendations derived from the Havana Workshop.

46. Some delegations discussed national and subregional initiatives on the access and sharing of benefits and biosafety, for example in Central America. Experts from the Caribbean SIDS consider that the management of genetic resources must include marine and coastal resources. They also suggested the possibility of using the CITES model to develop policies and legislative frameworks to address biosafety issues. Several countries stated that the availability of financial resources is indispensable to make any progress in this regard. They also stated the need to structure the international regime in a way that ensures the adequate operation of its main principles according to the needs of all participants in the negotiation and for some elements of the system to inspire action through national legislation.

47. The Chair requested to the delegations of Cuba, Brazil, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama y Peru to prepare a draft decision on the matter.

48. The delegation of Argentina presented the results of the de the "Meeting of Health and Environment Ministers of the Americas", held in the city of Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 14 to 19 June 2005. It mentioned that, in addition to the inter-ministerial meeting itself, in which 16 ministers and 24 countries participated, and whose consensus is reflected in the Mar del Plata Declaration and its cooperation agenda, technical activities were organized for information on conceptual approaches and methodological tools for addressing health and environment in an integrated manner. The GEO health report by UNEP and PAHO was pointed out as an example of inter-agency cooperation with notable progress.

49. The representative of UNEP/ROLAC underscored that water, the integrated management of chemicals and child health were the main issues discussed during

the Meeting held in Mar del Plata; however, he urged the experts to express specific comments on the issue of chemicals in order to submit detailed recommendations to the Ministers.

50. The delegations that participated in the debate reaffirmed their support to the recommendations of the Meeting held in Mar del Plata, particularly the regional cooperation proposal. They also acknowledged the importance of reaching international agreements on chemicals, but also noted that the inclusion of issues related to the life cycle and financial resources may entail difficulties to the consolidation of said agreements, particularly the next round of negotiations that will take place in Dubai.

51. Several delegations discussed the issue of the adequate management of hazardous wastes. The potential contribution of the Subregional Center for the Management of Hazardous Wastes in Trinidad and Tobago to capacity-building in Caribbean SIDS was highlighted, and hazardous wastes were identified as one of the main sources of coast pollution resulting from land-based activities. The majority of delegations agreed to the promotion of synergies between different agendas including environmental problems in rural and urban areas, as well as the protection of natural resources, including the quality of air, water and soil. In this regard, the Representative of UNEP/ROLAC reminded the meeting that the Programme was given the mandate to integrate the management of chemicals regulated under relevant multilateral environmental agreements. Brazil stressed the importance of the management of chemical substances and proposed that the subject be put to discussion, which was accepted by the Preparatory Meeting of Experts.

52. The Chair requested to the delegations of Cuba, Brazil, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama y Peru to prepare a draft decision on this matter.

53. Regarding decision 10 on the Adaptation of the Work Programme of the Environmental Training Network to the implementation of the ILAC and the incorporation of the Latin American and Caribbean Programme of Environmental Education for Sustainable Development, the delegation of Venezuela delivered a brief presentation on the activities performed to implement this agreement of the Forum of Ministers. They particularly highlighted the four main courses of action for the implementation of PLACEA, namely: the Action Plan 2006 – 2007 (to be developed in the next three months); the programme platform of the Network; the identification of financial resources and the management of resources from UNEP and the regional coordinating country.

54. The delegations that participated in the discussion of this issue reasserted their support for PLACEA, though they also observed that its feasibility depends on the availability of financial resources. Some delegations pointed out the need to engage the Ministries of Education in the implementation of this program. In this regard, the representative of UNEP/ROLAC indicated that the Ministries were already taking part of the initiative and that resources from the Trust Fund of the Network, though insufficient, had proved useful as seed money allowing for the collection of resources from other sources and the accomplishment of specific actions. It was also underscored the adoption, of the Amazonic and Andean Plan of Communication and Environment Education on October 2005 in Lima, Peru.

55. The representative of Costa Rica reported on the activities carried out in fulfilling decision 11 on environmental indicators. In particular, he noted that the Development Observatory of the Universidad de Costa Rica organized and circulated a survey among all the focal points registered for the ILAC to enable measurement of national capacity to create indicators, as well as to assess their availability and data reliability. Additionally, it was agreed that Costa Rica and Mexico would prepare a report on ILAC implementation to be submitted to the Forum of Ministers. Argentina joined this initiative and will present its report in April next year.

56. In reference to the ILAC matrix of indicators, as well as its review by the focal points, Costa Rica reported on the preparation of a website, which was being considered by all the focal points. Furthermore, with a view to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, the Second Meeting of the Focal Points was held in San Rafael, Costa Rica, to review the matrix approved by the Forum and to make an analysis of new indicators for the themes that had not been assigned an indicator, in order to submit them to the Forum of Ministers for consideration.

57. With regard to the development of information technology tools at the regional level, it was noted that the second phase of the GEO Data Portal was launched in May 2005. In relation to the general line of the Group that sets forth the need to advocate the compiling and standardization of national environmental variables in the framework of the Forum, Costa Rica commented on the project of the Regional Environmental Statistics System, SIREA, on which a document concerning short-, medium- and long-term requirements is now being prepared and will provide the integration requested by the Forum of Ministers. In relation to the request of the ITC agencies, and other organizations regarding the implementation of activities approved in decision 11, Costa Rica mentioned that on 6 May 2005, UNEP and ECLAC signed a Framework Cooperation Agreement in the field of environmental information and statistics in response to the request of the Forum of Ministers and the Statistics Conference of the Americas. Finally, the 2006-2007 work plan for the working group on ILAC indicators was presented, noting the indicators in the ILAC Matrix that had been eliminated or added by the working group at the Second Meeting of the Focal Points. Both aspects will be presented to the Forum of Ministers for consideration and possible approval.

58. The ECLAC representative reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to work on environmental indicators for sustainable development, and consequently its willingness to continue working together with UNEP during the biennium 2006-2007.

59. The delegations of the countries participating in the theme expressed their interest in continuing to work in this sphere, with the support of ECLAC and UNEP. Some delegations reported on their national experiences in relation to the development of environmental information systems. A warning was also made in relation to what some consider to be a weakness in the indicators proposed to measure the millennium development goals, such as, for example, the case of assessing sustainability, which is linked only to secure land tenure. There were also comments on the importance of incorporating technological developments into the environmental information systems of the region.

60. The Chair requested to the delegations of Costa Rica, Brazil, Panama, Venezuela, Uruguay and Dominican Republic to prepare a draft decision.

61. In the case of decision 12 on sustainable consumption and production, the delegation of Nicaragua, the coordinating country of the working group on the theme, reported on the activities carried out to fulfill the decision, including: promotion of the Sustainable Production and Consumption Strategy; strengthening of the Council of Experts; capacity-building through various means; awareness and education campaigns; pilot projects with the participation of young people; development of the supply of sustainable products and services and the creation of opportunities and dialogues to develop the theme. In relation to future activities in this sphere, the following actions were identified:

- a) basic management instruments;
- b) make efforts to internalize the theme in policy definition and design;
- c) create participation and consultation mechanisms at the national and subregional level;
- d) ensure that the theme is internalized in other institutions that participate in environmental management;
- e) work on increasing awareness and environmental education;
- f) create options for capacity building;
- g) adapt methodologies and tools to the particular features of the countries;
- h) have environmental indicators available to form statistics, including environmental chains.

62. The UNEP/ROLAC representative drew the meeting's attention to the work programme proposal for the next two years, which was to be considered and possibly approved by the Forum of Ministers.

63. The delegation of Uruguay presented a report on the activities carried out by the member countries of MERCOSUR and commented that the working group on the MERCOSUR policy proposal for environmental waste management and post-consumption responsibility had culminated in a draft proposal that would be submitted to the meeting of the MERCOSUR Council of Environment Ministers for consideration. The delegation noted that the scope of the agreement would cover a set of waste streams called special wastes of universal generation. The list of the waste streams could be reviewed and expanded by common accord of the States parties to the agreement. The effective implementation of this agreement will enable not only the application of measures on the stream of wastes generated, once the useful life of goods has concluded, but it can also strengthen the application of criteria or measures on the products.

64. The delegation of Argentina commented on the project initiated in 2002 in MERCOSUR with the support of the GTZ on the state of the art in environmental management; it indicated that the first period of the project had concluded showing minimum asymmetries in management and that the following stage would last three years.

65. After these presentations, the President designated the delegations of Nicaragua and Uruguay to prepare a decision proposal.

66. The delegation of Chile reported on the actions undertaken to fulfill decision 13 on the implementation of economic instruments and fiscal policy for environmental management, and particularly those related to capacity building and the use of economic instruments for environmental management. It noted that a new instrument was being used in the region, which was peer review of environmental performance, which has already been carried out in Mexico and Chile, and the work that ECLAC was carrying out in this sphere was recognized.

67. The ECLAC representative expressed its willingness to continue working with the countries of the region and announced that ECLAC would make a presentation in the ministerial segment on these peer reviews, in view of the expectations produced by the experiences. The UNDP representative, in turn, indicated that financing had been discussed separately from the theme of economic instruments and that UNDP, together with ECLAC, has considered the possibility of their being addressed in a single working group. Several delegations that participated in the discussion supported this UNDP proposal.

68. The Chair requested to the delegations of Chile, Argentina, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela to prepare a draft decision.

69. The delegation of Panama presented an introduction to the activities carried out in fulfillment of decision 14 on climate change. It reported on the state of ratification of the Kyoto Protocol in the region and the meetings held in several countries that would serve as preparation for the next meeting of the Parties in Montreal. The representatives of the agencies expressed their commitment to supporting the countries of the region and drew the meeting's attention to the need for alternative carbon markets to truly reinvest in the actual development of the countries.

70. The delegation of Peru stated that the region was at a cohesive stage in relation to the theme of climate change and several delegations agreed that vulnerability and adaptation should be at the same level as mitigation, since they are of critical importance to the Small Island Developing States and their need to exert influence on the adoption of decisions at the meeting in Montreal.

71. The representative of the Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on climate change underscore the positive impact that the decisions and actions of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of the Latin America and the Caribbean have resulted in the implementation of the convention such as promote the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, including Russia. The functioning of the Clean Development Mechanism including the expedition of the first certificate of reduction of green house gases by Honduras; the inclusion of afforestation and reforestation in the CDM and also the recognition of adaptation as a priority issue of the UNFCCC agenda. Several important issues were mentioned with relevance to the region, for example adoption of the Marakesh Agreement, particularly improvement of the CDM adoption of the working plan related to adaptation, increasing in the funding of the

special fund for Climate Change and to make operative the adaptation fund. All these issues will impact on the international climate regime in 2012.

72 In turn, the representative of The World Bank called attention on the need to have methodologies approved, particularly those related to changes in land-use. Finally, the group acknowledged the importance of having a wide regional representation in Montreal, and the delegation of Ecuador proposed to submit a Declaration of the Forum of Ministers to the consideration of the Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol.

73. The Chair requested to the delegations of Brazil, Uruguay, Venezuela y Honduras to prepare a draft decision.

74 Regarding decision 15 on Renewable Energies, the delegation of Brazil delivered a presentation on national and regional initiatives on renewable energies and recalled the goal regionally approved for the generation of 10% of the energy from renewable sources. With regard to the Working Group established by the Forum of Ministers, they observed that the member countries were not actively participating and expressed the need to add a ITC agency to this group.

75 While discussing this issue, several delegations acknowledged the importance of addressing it with regard to the organization of the Fourteenth Meeting of the CSD, the agenda of which includes the issue of energy. Several delegations described their national experiences in this respect, particularly Venezuela, who suggested that the analysis take place based on development models, control of high demand for energy, evaluation of alternative sources of energy from a social perspective. They also expressed the need to discuss the social implications in qualitative terms, i.e., the impact of small-scale projects in order to promote the use of renewable sources of power.

76 In turn, UNCTAD presented the Initiative on Biofuels, the objectives of which include the promotion of investment, reduction of poverty, reduction of GEI, reduction of fuel imports and alternatives for the rural sector. Pilot activities are in development in four countries and will be elaborated in 2006.

77 The Chair asked the delegations of Brazil, Uruguay, Venezuela and Honduras to prepare a draft decision.

78 The delegation of Peru informed the meeting of the activities performed to comply with decision 16 on trade and the environment adopted by the XIV Forum of Ministers. Then, the delegation of Argentina presented their experiences with this issue at the MERCOSUR level. The issue of trade and the environment was included in the agenda in 2004 as a result of a workshop on poverty, environment and trade. The working group on environmental goods and services established some common criteria at its first meeting and at its most recent one agreed upon the following points which were submitted to the consideration of the Plenary:

- a) negotiating formats;
- b) technology transfer and access;
- c) focus on national environmental projects instead of the traditional list approach;

- d) focus on environmental goods for development;
- e) access to markets of products of interest for developing countries

79. Some delegations expressed the need to build capacities regarding the use of para-tariff barriers and current negotiations in the framework of free-trade agreements. The delegation of Venezuela specifically expressed their difficulties in dealing with the issue of competitiveness, which they consider to be exclusive. Instead, they propose a cooperation and complementarity approach that would in turn contribute to reduce poverty.

80. UNCTAD mentioned the cooperation provided in the field of trade and environment benefiting the countries of the region. It also underlined the support provided under the Biotrade Initiative for the promotion for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity according to the CDB principles. Nine countries of the region are participating in this initiative in particular with involvement from respective governments and civil society. UNCTAD has undertaken joint actions with CAF, CAN and OTCA at the regional level and with the CBD and CITES at the international level. UNCTAD mentioned that it has developed important experiences through these actions and reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting the region.

81. The Chair requested to the delegations of Chile, Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Panama y Venezuela y UNCTAD to prepare the draft decision.

82. Regarding decision 17 on the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Twelfth Period of Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, ECLAC presented a summary of the Forum of Ministers' compliance with this decision. The delegation of Brazil, with the support of Venezuela, highlighted the relevance of preparatory meetings and suggested to keep on working in this fashion. Attention was called on the need to increase regional participation so that the preparatory paper be previously agreed by consensus and provide the grounds for decision-making.

Agenda Item 5: Follow-up and Discussion of the Agreements Derived from the Twenty-Third Governing Council

5.1. UNEP's Water Strategy

83. The representative of UNEP presented a document on the water strategy it is currently working on. In this regard, he presented a summary of the activities performed by UNEP in recent years and indicated that a proposal of strategy was received at the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Governing Council, where it was decided to continue working in order to include the results of the upcoming meeting of the CSD. He proceeded to report on the measures adopted by UNEP in response to the decisions of different fora, such as the Earth Summit and, more recently, the Millennium Development Goals and the Johannesburg Summit. He specified that the time has come to act instead of furthering the revision of the strategy. Six strategic principles were established in order to move towards fulfillment of these objectives; therefore, the XV Forum of Ministers represents a unique opportunity to incorporate

the ideas and contributions of participating countries. He described the mechanisms, partnerships and collaboration and cooperation forms at the regional, subregional and national levels, including for example the Caribbean SIDS, who will work together with GEF.

84. The delegation of Brazil presented a proposal to develop a common strategy on water in LAC that would complement UNEP's strategy; the proposal establishes specific actions. The Dominican Republic expressed its support to the proposal submitted by Brazil regarding a common regional strategy along the lines of UNEP's strategy, particularly the specific characteristics of the subregions. For their part, the delegation of Panama proposed the inclusion of the issue of rain collection to reduce the pressure on other sources of water (rivers, aquifers), and described their experience in the coordination towards water management. The delegation of Mexico thanked Brazil for presenting this proposal and acknowledged the importance of water being seen as part of an ecosystem.

85. The representative of The World Bank indicated that the information on water resources offers great cooperation potential (with WMO). He pointed out that the region lags behind in terms of water infrastructure, that there could be cooperation in the area of dam safety and dam security to build capacities, foster active participation and empowerment in the management of water resources. The representative of the IDB stated that water is a priority issue for the organization and congratulated UNEP on the drafting of the Strategy; he also discussed the actions to support the National Plan on Water Resources in Brazil. The representative of CATALAC offered all of its resources to the Forum, including Georeferenced Information Systems, modeling, results, etc.

5.2. Implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building

86. The Regional Director of UNEP/ROLAC presented the background of the Bali Strategic Plan, particularly the decision adopted during the Twenty-Third Meeting of the Governing Council of UNEP (Nairobi, Kenya, February 2005). The decision requests that the Executive Director:

- a) assign high priority to the effective and immediate implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan;
- b) immediately adopt the necessary measures related to the coordination mechanisms as stated under section V of said plan; and
- c) establish a strategy for the mobilization of resources and coordinate with other financial organizations in order to ensure the immediate and continued implementation of the strategy.

87. It was decided that the Executive Director will submit a report on the measures adopted for the full implementation of the Strategic Plan to the Ninth Extraordinary Session of the Governing Council of UNEP to be held in Dubai in February 2006. The strategic lines for the implementation of the Plan include: a demand-driven approach; continuous support from UNEP in terms of one or more common objectives; support to the implementation of international multilateral

environmental agreements (MEAs); differentiated approach at the regional level; focus on cross-sectoral issues; south-south cooperation and collaboration with other agencies.

88. The delegations participating in the debate proposed drafting a decision that reaffirms the importance of implementing the Plan applying regional approaches and bearing in mind the priorities established in the ILAC, however, it should be started from one of these priorities.

89. The Chair requested the Delegation of Cuba to coordinate a draft decision with the support of Argentina and Mexico.

5.3. Provisional programmes of the ninth extraordinary session of the Governing Council/World Global Forum at a Ministerial Level.

90. The Regional Director of UNEP for Latin America and the Caribbean mentioned that the intention to include this point in the agenda was to reiterate the importance of an active participation of the region in such meetings. The Mexican Delegation stressed that tourism and the environment is a priority issue, particularly in the prevention of risks associated with natural disasters.

Agenda Item 6: Discussion, proposals and recommendations on the Regional Plan of Action 2006-2007

91. The UNEP/ROLAC representative mentioned that prior to the meeting, document **UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/11** prepared by the Secretariat of the Forum and proposed a December 2005 deadline in order to receive inputs from countries. A consolidated version should be delivered with such contributions, which would be approved at the ITC meeting to be held in February 2006.

92. ECLAC stressed the support provided by the Commission for activities related to the CSD agenda, climate change in terms of vulnerability and adaptation, peer environmental performance assessment and financing for sustainable development. UNEP reiterated its proposal to link activities to projects that include financial instruments to reach the environment goals.

93. After the above interventions, the proposal was accepted by the Meeting of Experts.

Agenda Item 7: Emerging Issues in the International Environment Agenda

7.1 Report on Millennium Ecosystems. Contribution of Environment Goods and Services to Sustainable Development.

94. The President of the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, Mr. Fernando Gast informed that the assessment is a response to a mandate by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and its is linked to various environment conventions. Well-being, the sustainable use of natural resources and pressure on ecosystems are interrelated. For example the pressure on coral ecosystems has led to a

disappearance of 20% of this resource. Additionally, there are implication in the changes in the overexploitation of natural resources, such as fishing resulting in the use of deeper fishing technologies. The report proposes the investment in ecosystems as has been done in other productive sectors and to increase the protection of natural resources by incorporating the relevant social dimensions. Additionally, he presented an assessment of what has been done in the Colombian coffee region covering 800 municipalities, with the application of the methodology used in this report.

95. The Venezuelan Delegation mentioned the methodology used to valuate and access ecological ecosystems.

96. On the other hand, the Costa Rican delegation reiterated the importance of investing in ecosystems because this increases their protection and safeguards their potential to provide various services. Costa Rica's experience in this sphere has been very positive. The delegation also proposed working on a decision about the ecosystems services.

97. The Chair decided to ask the Costa Rican, Panamanian and Venezuelan delegations to draft a proposal for the Forum of Ministers.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion and recommendations to the Forum of Ministers concerning priority environment fora and negotiations.

8.1. Fourteenth session of the Commission on Sustainability Development (1st to 12th May 2006)

98. The ECLAC representative mentioned that the Regional Economic Commissions had been asked to support the CSD preparatory process in two cycles. He mentioned that the thematic cloisters handled by the Commission are not always the competence of the environment authorities; consequently, coordination between the local and national institutions is necessary. ECLAC has been asked to prepare a regional study on the subjects to be dealt with in the 14 CSD, therefore, invited other ITC agencies to collaborate in the preparation of such document. The draft of the document will be available in December for consideration by the regional preparatory CSD meeting to be held in Santiago de Chile in January 2006. Finally, he reiterated the importance of coordination to prepare the subject at a national and regional level.

99. The UNDP representative made reference to an energy initiative approved at the Johannesburg Summit. In a meeting related to that initiative, in which various countries of the region participated, links between energy alternatives and poverty reductions were identified. The deliberations of that meeting will be taken up in a meeting to be held in Santiago, Chile, in January 2006.

100. The Meeting of Experts took note of the comments summarized in the above paragraphs.

7.2. Fourth World Water Forum

101. The Mexican Delegation made a presentation to the Plenary of the programme of the ministerial segment of the programme of the World Water Forum (Mexico City, Mexico; 16th to 22nd March 2006), where the leading message is "local actions for a global challenge". The delegation stated that the programme of the Forum contemplated having round tables to deal with the subject of financing, capacity building, decentralization processes and governance, water use, strengthening of monitoring mechanisms, water and the environment, among others. Reports are expected for each round table, together with a ministerial decision focused on policy decisions. This Forum of Ministers is expected to provide input to the World Water Forum.

102. The Brazilian Delegation thanked Mexico for the presentation and called on the other delegations to be prepared and to actively participate because they think this is an important moment to present local experiences.

103. The Meeting of Experts took note of the presentation by Mexico.

Agenda Item 8: Status of implementation and outlook for the Multilateral Environment Agreements (Declarations by the High-Level Representatives of the Multilateral Environment Conventions)

104. The Chair invited the Convention Secretariats to present this point; however, there were no interventions.

Agenda Item 9: Other matters

105. The Brazilian Delegation mentioned that 2006 would be the international year of desertification and asked the Forum whether it would be advisable to make a statement on this issue. In response, UNEP said that the World Environment Day would be dedicated to the desert ecosystems; additionally, the a world GEO is being prepared on arid and semi-arid ecosystems and proposed that a country in the region should come forward to be the regional venue to hold the world day in the fight against desertification on 17th June 2006.

106. The Venezuelan Delegation supported the Brazilian initiative and together with Uruguay, it will present a decision for consideration by the Plenary.

Agenda Item 10: Review and approval of the report of the meeting

107. Under this agenda item, the delegations reviewed and approved the draft Final Report presented by the Rapporteur, including the decisions of the Preparatory Meeting of Experts, with the necessary modifications. The Report will be finalized and delivered to the delegations for the ministerial segment, which will begin on Thursday, 3 November 2005.

Agenda Item 11: Closing of the meeting

108. The meeting was adjourned _____ Thursday 3rd November 2005.

Annex II Decisions

The Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Governments present at the Preparatory Meeting of Experts of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Forum of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 31st October to 2nd November 2005, recommend to the Ministerial Segment:

DECISION 1

REGIONAL ACTION PLAN AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN INITIATIVE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ILAC) REGIONAL ACTION PLAN 2006-2007

Taken into account that the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean is the primary political regional inter-governmental forum in the area of the environment, and that it offers the environmental authorities of the region a space for reflection and discussion on the major challenges of the regional and global environmental agenda within the framework of sustainable development;

Considering that the regional Action Plan is the major instrument of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean for the implementation of agreed regional strategies;

Considering likewise that the Regional Action Plan 2004-2005 was approved by the Forum of Ministers of the Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean in its Fourteenth Meeting that took place in Panama in November 2003;

Emphasizing the need to implement the ILAC formulated and agreed to by the Forum of Ministers of the Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean and approved at the World Summit for Sustainable Development that took place in Johannesburg in 2002;

Decide:

1. To reaffirm that the Regional Action Plan is a fundamental tool for the implementation of the ILAC.

2. To approve the Regional Action Plan for the biennium 2006-2007, with a view of implementing ILAC with its eight proposed major topics:

- a) Access and benefit sharing of genetic resources;
- b) Water Resources;
- c) Human Settlements;
- d) Vulnerability and Land Use;
- e) Renewable Energy;
- f) Trade and Environment;

- g) Economic Instruments and Fiscal Policy;
- h) Climate Change and Environmental Indicators

3. To agree that the Inter-Sessional Committee meets with the coordinators of the ad hoc Working Groups during the inter-sessional period to finalize the programming of activities agreed under the Regional Action Plan 2006-2007, including the scheduling of this activities and using as a basis the inputs from this meeting as well as those received until December 2005, both from Governments and from the Agencies that are part of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee.

DECISION 2

ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF WORKING GROUPS

Taking into account decision 1 of the Eleventh Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, decision 2 of the Fourteenth Meeting, and other relevant decisions of the Forum of Ministers in which the mandate and terms of reference of working groups were established;

Mindful that Working Groups have been more productive in the implementation of the decisions of the Forum of Ministers when these groups have focused their work on specific issues;

Recognizing that working groups with greater participation of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee implementing agencies have achieved more results;

Taking into account the recommendations of the Meeting of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee held in Panama City during the period July 12 to 13, 2005;

Decide:

1. To call for the establishment of the following working groups with membership indicated hereunder:

Access to genetic resources and fair and equitable distribution of the benefits arising from their utilization	Ecuador , Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Cuba, Guyana, Grenada, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Suriname, Nicaragua and Venezuela
Water Resources/Integrated Watershed and Coastal Zone Management	Mexico, Nicaragua , Argentina, Barbados, Guyana, Suriname, Haiti, Belize, Jamaica, Venezuela, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and El Salvador
Human Settlements, Vulnerability and Land-Use Planning	Cuba , Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Guyana, Uruguay, Suriname, México, El Salvador and Haiti
Renewable energy	Brazil , Uruguay, El Salvador, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Guyana, Mexico, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Chile, Nicaragua and El Salvador

Trade and Environment	Peru , Barbados, CARICOM Secretariat, Argentina, Costa Rica, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador and Ecuador
Financing, Economic Instruments and Fiscal Policy	Chile , Dominican Republic, Barbados, Haiti, Jamaica, Guyana, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico and Argentina
Climate Change	Panama , Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia, Belize, Suriname, Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, Haití, Guyana, Grenada, México, Cuba, Costa Rica, Peru, Chile, El Salvador and Ecuador
Monitoring the implementation of decisions of this Forum relevant to the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the BPOA	Saint Lucia , Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Cuba, Haiti, Suriname, Guyana and CARICOM Secretariat
Environmental Education	Venezuela , Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, Uruguay, Panama, Ecuador, Chile, Cuba, Peru and Suriname, Haiti
Health and Environment	Argentina , Uruguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Haiti, Costa Rica, Peru, Chile, Panama and El Salvador
Environmental indicators	Costa Rica , El Salvador, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Belize, Mexico, Nicaragua, Colombia, Saint Lucia, Panama, Argentina, Brazil and Peru

2. To urge that the working groups:

- a) Incorporate as far as possible representation of the different sub-regions of the Latin American and Caribbean Region,
- b) Include at least one ITC agency that can meaningfully contribute to advancing the implementation of the specific activities agreed to by the Forum on Ministers. Relevant Secretariats of regional integration organizations may be invited to participate on specific activities,
- c) Meet during the inter-sessional period back to back with the ITC Meeting to assess progress made and determine the future direction in implementing the specific decisions of the Forum of Ministers related to the mandate of the working group – a report on the outcome of these meetings to be provided to the Chair of the Forum of Ministers for circulation to the countries of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of the Region,
- d) Work by electronic means, on an agreed schedule, in-between face to face meetings

3. To request the Secretariat of the Forum of Ministers to continue to provide operational support and facilitate the activities of the working groups especially the

convening of meetings including, but not limited to, real time electronic communication and translation.

4. To urge countries willing to participate in the working groups to designate a focal point so as to coordinate the fulfilment of responsibilities assumed by the member countries in the working group - such focal points to be communicated to the Secretariat of the Forum of Ministers.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 3

REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAM OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, INCLUDING THE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BALI STRATEGIC PLAN

Taking into account decision 20/39 of the twentieth session of the UNEP Governing Council on the work of the regional offices and the proposed measures for strengthening, regionalization and decentralization; as well as decision 22/21 from the twenty-second session of the UNEP Governing Council regarding the regional implementation of UNEP's programme of work;

Following the agreements of the Implementation Plan of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, particularly Section XI (g), the mandates from the Commission on Sustainable Development, and the contents of the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development;

Recalling that the Bali Strategic Plan was approved during the twenty-third session of the UNEP Governing Council by Decision 23/1, Annex 1, and that it is regarded as an important political instrument for the achievement of targets, goals and objectives, especially those in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

Recalling that the Bali Strategic Plan also has, among other objectives, the implementation of technological support measures and the creation of systematic and selective capacity on the short and long terms, taking into account international agreements and based on national and regional needs, as well as to improve UNEP's services to developing countries and to countries with economies in transition related to technological support and capacity building, all of which requires its due implementation at a regional level;

Considering that the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan, at a regional level, requires the integration of its targets and goals with the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative, and in particular, with the priority areas established in the Regional Action Plan;

Decide:

1. To request the Secretariat of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, to develop the respective actions for the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan at a regional level, according to the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative and the priority targets established in the Regional Action Plan.

2. To urge UNEP, at the same time, to effectively follow the mandate of UNEP's Governing Council on the regional implementation of its programme of work, under Decision 22/21, highlighting, at the same time, the important role of the regional offices of the United Nations Programme.

3. To prepare regional proposals to apply institutional, administrative, legislative and policy measures and mechanisms that promote the development of capacities and the adaptation of technology, taking into account the necessary requirements at regional, sub-regional and national levels and in particular the needs and priorities of the Caribbean SIDS.

4. To request the agencies from the Inter-Agency Technical Committee, to develop and implement a cooperation program to strengthen institutional capacities in the area of technology support, as per decision 23/1 from UNEP's Governing Council.

5. To urge the countries from Latin American and the Caribbean to actively participate, and in a coordinated way, in the Ninth Extraordinary Session of UNEP's Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, to be held in February 2006 in Dubai, in order to ensure that regional priorities for the biennium 2006-2007 are taken into account during the review of the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan, particularly regarding budgetary and financial aspects.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 4

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

(Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago).

Taking account of decision 4 of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean;

Recognizing and appreciating the work done by UNEP in collaboration with the UNCCD Secretariat, the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and the Caribbean Community in the development of the Caribbean SIDS Programme;

Acknowledging the role played by the Ministerial Support Group on South-South Cooperation between Latin American countries and Caribbean SIDS under the Chairmanship of Chile;

Recognizing the special vulnerabilities and peculiar structural circumstances with respect to small size, extreme openness, the concentration on a narrow range of primary products for export, limited capacity for diversification and high susceptibility to natural disasters as articulated by Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (BPOA), the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI);

Noting the adoption by the Heads of State and Governments, of paragraphs 55(d) and 66 of Resolution No. A/60/L. 1 of the United Nations September 2005 World

Summit and the adoption in August 2005 of United Nations General Assembly Resolution No. 59/31 on the International Meeting to review the Implementation of the programme of action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Development SIDS;

Further noting that Caribbean SIDS have engaged in follow-up activities on the implementation of the MSI in a meeting in St. Kitts and Nevis in October 2005;

Noting also the considerable efforts that Caribbean SIDS have made in the implementation of the BPOA;

Decides:

- 1. To urge** the further development and implementation of the Caribbean SIDS programme and its continued review and assessment so that it reflects the goals of the MSI and emerging development needs and priorities of the region.
- 2. To call** on UNEP to provide support to the further elaboration and development of a well-established, well-defined Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the further implementation of the BPOA and the MSI.
- 3. To request** UNEP to support the implementation of the Caribbean SIDS Programme, and to strengthen the institutional capacity of SIDS at the national and regional level including access to new and emerging technologies.
- 4. To further call** on UNEP to continue its support to the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) as a means of strengthening the region's institutional and technical capacity to adapt and respond to the adverse impacts of climate change and to develop cooperative initiatives with similar institutions within Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 5. To also call** on UNEP to assist Caribbean SIDS in strengthening their ability to reduce risks and to mitigate and respond to the consequences of natural and man-made hazards and to address issues such as insurance and re-insurance.
- 6. To urge** UNEP to provide further support in addressing trade and environment issues particularly in view of the coming into force of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy.
- 7. To urge** the Forum of Ministers to further develop the South-South cooperation programme between Latin American countries and Caribbean SIDS taking into account the priority areas as identified by the Ministerial Support Group, in particular support for renewable energy options including the establishment of a mechanism to enhance South-South cooperation.
- 8. To urge** that support be given to Caribbean SIDS for the development and strengthening of environmental awareness programmes, campaigns and materials involving all stakeholders – public, private and civil society – using Caribbean artistic, cultural and sporting activities and experiences as the primary media.
- 9. To call** on UNEP to support the efforts of Caribbean SIDS to work towards the cessation of the transshipment of nuclear waste through the Caribbean Sea.

DECISION 5

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE FORUM OF MINISTERS OF THE
ENVIRONMENT ON FINANCING AND ECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY INSTRUMENTS
FOR ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT**

Bearing in mind the genuine needs of the countries in the region concerning financial resources, including the application of economic and fiscal instruments for environment management, whose objective is to close the current gap between aspirations and accomplishments regarding environment management in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Considering the mandates and recommendations emerging from the Declaration of Rio de Janeiro on Environment and Development of Agenda 21 of the Millennium Declaration of 2000, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the call to developed countries to comply with the Official Assistance Development (OAD), established in the Final Declaration of the International Conference on Development Financing (Monterrey 2002), all of which are very important in ensuring the flow of the necessary resources to comply with the environment goals and objectives for sustainable development;

Bearing in mind the importance of the subject in the application of recommendations and action priorities identified in the Regional Action Plan 2006-2007 of the Forum of Environment Ministers of Latin America and the Caribbean, in accordance with the objectives and goals of the Latin American and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC);

Recalling the importance of implementing the ILAC, specifically the Operational Guidelines that urge the creation and strengthening of the economic and fiscal instruments for the promotion of sustainable development;

Emphasizing the importance of the coherence, coordination and integration of public policies required in environment management, which include fiscal and environment policies, as a challenge yet to be overcome by the region's countries;

Reiterating the importance of incorporating new instruments to assess public policies concerning environment issues that are currently available in the region, particularly Environment Performance Evaluations (EPAs);

Recognizing the work done concerning various regional and global organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), World Bank (WB) and the Global Environment Fund.

Decide:

1. To request the Inter Agency Technical Committee (ITC) to continue working in the identification of financial mechanisms as well as to support the implementation of economical and fiscal instruments for the environmental management in the countries of the region.

2. To request ECLAC and UNDP to propose a set of tools and instruments that reflect the lessons learned and the good practices in the issues of identification of financial sources in the public and private sectors that include methodologies for the determination of the environmental expenses, as well as those that are relevant in the application of economic and fiscal instruments for the environmental management. A request is made to continue with development of environment training strengthening activities in order to facilitate the use of such tools.

3. To request ECLAC and UNDP as well as the rest of the agencies that conform the Inter Agency Technical Committee (ITC) to continue supporting the organization of High Level Regional Meetings among the fiscal and economic authorities with those of the environment; in order to continue exploring the identification complementarities between fiscal and environmental policies, promoting the use of economic and fiscal instruments for the environmental management, among others.

4. To promote in accordance with the mandate of the Inter Agency Technical Committee agencies (ITC), the experience and cooperation among the countries of the region on financial issues for sustainable development, including economic instruments and fiscal policies.

5. Promote and facilitate the exchange of experiences in subjects like payment for environment and ecosystem services in order to help strengthen the financing of sustainable development.

6. To promote and facilitate the exchange of experience in subjects such as payments for environmental services.

7. To request the agencies of the Inter Agency Technical Committee (ITC) that the allocation of financial resources for capacity building programmes in the area of the use of economic and fiscal instruments for environmental management, be done bearing in mind the policies, institutional, economical and social realities of the countries of the region.

8. To reiterate the need that the allocated resources for capacity building, be coherent and in accordance with the public policies of the countries.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 6

CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

Considering that Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Millennium Development Goals highlight the importance of citizenship participation in sustainable development;

Acknowledging that in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC), in the Barbados Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow up, as well as in the Mauritius Strategy, the significant role of citizenship participation in sustainable development is underscored;

Recalling that the Governing Council of UNEP, in its decision 22/18 reasserts its support for decision SSVII/5 adopted at its VII Special Meeting, on the commitment to include civil society in the UNEP work programme;

Taking into account that civil society participation experiences are being developed in the region at the national and local levels, such as National Committees on Environment and National Councils on Sustainable Development;

Taking into account the positive results of decision 6 on the participation of civil society at all levels, adopted at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers;

Decide:

- 1. To strengthen** the systematic incorporation of civil society into the activities taking place at the national and regional levels for the implementation of ILAC, the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy.
- 2. To recommend** the civil society organizations to undertake efforts to incorporate the increased involvement of Major Groups in their organization and participation activities for the implementation of the ILAC, the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy.
- 3. To support** the development and implementation of national actions to strengthen the role of civil society, especially the most impoverished and usually excluded groups in environmental management and governance.
- 4. To support** the various participation and coordination mechanisms of civil society that exist at the national, sub-regional and regional levels, and study the possibilities to support the proposal of an Executive Secretariat to facilitate the regional coordination of civil society organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean that give follow-up to the ILAC, promoting at the same time a pro-active and responsible participation.
- 5. To urge** the agencies of the Interagency Technical Committee to, within the framework of their mandates, allocate specific resources in the biennium 2006-2007 for the citizen participation in the implementation of ILAC, the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy.
- 6. To promote and strengthen** collaboration at the national, sub-regional and regional levels within the framework of technical cooperation between civil society and the Forum of Ministers.
- 7. To support** initiatives of communication, education and training with the objective of promoting and expanding the participation of civil society in environmental management for sustainable development.
- 8. Establish** collaboration mechanisms among the agencies of the Interagency Technical Committee and the environmental authorities to call in a wide and representative manner, with a transparent and objective selection of participants, for training activities and civil society dialogues.
- 9. Ensure** transparency and access to information, by implementing and strengthening national and regional information systems on the environment.

10. Promote the creation of national working commissions comprising different sectors of society in the countries that are members of the Forum of Ministers, with the following objectives:

- a) Initiate a review of the direct participation experiences and mechanisms in decision-making in environmental management in the different levels of local, state and national public administration.
- b) Propose concrete mechanisms of citizen participation in decision-making on public matters related to sustainable development.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 7

WATER RESOURCES

Considering decision 7 of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean;

Reaffirming the importance of water as an essential resource for life and for the region's development, as well as for the conservation of important ecosystems;

Reaffirming our endorsement to the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;

Taking into account the Millennium Development Goals and the commitments made by Governments at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, particularly those related to water and sanitation;

Considering the need to develop and implement intersectoral policies that reflect the crosscutting nature of this issue and the need to move forward in the implementation of public policies to put integrated management of water resources into practice;

Stressing the results of the 2004-2005 period of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development;

Decide:

1. To support the decision on water, sanitation and human settlement policies adopted at the Thirteenth Period of Sessions of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development;

2. To reiterate the need to adopt an integrated planning approach, taking into account the links between land use, watershed and coastal area management, in particular for the Caribbean Small Island Developing States;

3. To urge Governments to adopt integrated strategies with a watershed approach, for the planning and integrated management of water resources, including groundwater, in line with the valuation of environmental, social, cultural, economic and land use considerations;

4. To enhance the appropriate valuation of the role of water in ecosystems and the role of aquatic ecosystems as resource and essential services providers for sustainable development, as well as for peoples' welfare and safety;

5. **To promote** as appropriate the harmonization of policies and legislation in the field of water at the subregional level as well as to support the development and implementation of countries' legal frameworks;
6. **To promote** the adoption of alternatives to increase water availability, such as rainwater harvesting and the re-use of water as well as community supply systems as a feasible strategy to augment water availability in rural areas,
7. **To encourage** the prevention of coastal and marine area degradation from land-based activities and, to participate in and to support the preparatory process of the 2nd Intergovernmental Review Meeting of the GPA to be held in October 2006 in the Peoples Republic of China;
8. **To establish** measures that call upon on the providers of water services to reduce unaccountable losses of water, recognizing the impact of increasing energy prices on water production and distribution costs;
9. **To promote** the adoption and the operation of information systems that include hydro-geological databases, water quality information and all variables of the water cycle;
10. **To promote** the participation of all stakeholders, in particular women, youth and local communities, in water planning and integrated water management;
11. **To recognize** that water provides a platform for integration among peoples and peace consolidation;
12. **To support** the general directions and elements of the draft Water Policy and Strategy as presented in document UNEP/LAC-IGWG.XV/Inf.12 and to actively participate within UNEP's work for the further updating of the Water Policy and Strategy which will be reviewed by the 24th Session of the Governing Council/Environmental Ministerial Forum in 2007;
13. **To welcome** the proposal on a Latin American and Caribbean Common Strategy on Water Management and to urge countries to submit their considerations before 5 December 2005. The Working Group on Water Resources which is mentioned in decision 3, will have the responsibility of compiling and incorporating the countries proposals and to present a consolidated version at the IV World Water Forum which will be held in Mexico City in March 2006;
14. **To wish** the success of the IV World Water Forum which will be held from 16th to 22nd March 2006 in Mexico City and to express our disposition to collaborate in a constructive manner with the works of this Forum;
15. **To recognize** that the Ministerial Conference of the IV World Water Forum will provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange experiences and knowledge in support to the instrumentalization of water and sanitation policies, in particular those approved within the framework of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development.

DECISION 8

ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES, FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION, AND PARTICIPATION OF THE REGION IN THE NEGOTIATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL REGIME

Recalling that access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization is unquestionably one of the most complex themes of greatest international discussion in relation to biological diversity and, at the same time, is of particular importance to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, where one of world's greatest endowments of genetic resources is found;

Taking into account that the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, at its Fourteenth Meeting (Panama City, Panama; 24 and 25 November 2003), adopted decision 8, which requests the support of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee for holding workshops or experts meetings, with a view to exchanging experiences and strengthening institutional capacities of the countries for the implementation and fulfilment of international legal mandates in this field;

Considering that decision VII/19 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity mandated the preparation and negotiation of an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, aimed at the adoption of an instrument or instruments to effectively implement the provisions of Article 15 and Article 8 (j) of the Convention and its third objective: the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the utilization of genetic resources; as well as at the presentation of a report on the progress made in this theme to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting;

Recognizing that the meeting of the Special Open-ended Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing (Bangkok, Thailand; 14 to 18 February 2005), in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, made it evident that we were entering into a complex process of negotiation on an international regime in this field, in compliance with the successive mandates of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and decisions IV/8, V/26, VI/24 and VII/19 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Considering also the outcomes of the «Regional Workshop on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization, and Associated Traditional Knowledge», held in Havana, Cuba, on 21 and 22 June 2005 to align criteria in a very preliminary manner in a group of experts of the countries of the region on some of the very complex technical issues being discussed at the beginning of the process for the development of the international regime agreed to in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Decide:

- 1. Advocate** the activities necessary to include the policies and priorities of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the negotiation of the international regime.
- 2. Ask** the countries of the region to advocate, at the national level, the processes to identify national priorities in the theme of access and benefit-sharing through mechanisms to coordinate trade and environment agendas.
- 3. Acknowledge** the contribution of the various groups and social organizations, concerned about these issues, and at the same time consolidate national participation processes in the discussion of the themes of access and benefit-sharing.
- 4. Create** regional opportunities for discussion of the negotiations on the international regime that take into account the relevance of traditional knowledge and genetic resources and of the genetic resources, with the support of the ITC.
- 5. Continue promoting** regional and subregional activities, including meetings, workshops and other means of expanding knowledge and exchange on the theme of access to genetic resources, benefit-sharing and traditional knowledge in the identification of priorities and demands of the region and on its optimum positioning in the negotiation process on the international regime.
- 6. Use** the considerations arising from the Havana Workshop as a contribution to the discussions and to the formulation of a common regional position (Appendix 1 of Annex II relating to the decisions adopted at the XV Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean).
- 7. Forward** this decision, through the GRULAC representatives, to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Parties.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 9

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Reaffirming decision 9 of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers and the need to improve the understanding of environmental threats to human health, in order to prevent and minimize their negative impact, contribute to the eradication of poverty and reduce inequality.

Considering that the development and implementation of integral and participation-oriented health and environment policies and programmes are tools that effectively contribute to improving the quality of life of our peoples, especially that of the most vulnerable population groups;

Bearing in mind the inter-ministry Health and Environment meetings held in Mar del Plata, Argentina, from 16th to 19th June 2005, in which the following priority work areas were identified:

- a) integral management of water resources and solid wastes,
- b) safe management of chemicals,
- c) child environmental health.

Recognizing the inter-agency work done by UNEP/ROLAC, PAHO and OAS, including the methodological framework of GEO Health for the integrated assessment of health and environment issues under the leadership of UNEP and the cooperation of PAHO;

Taking note of the conclusions reached by the dialogue of Environmental Organizations of Latin America and the Caribbean (Caracas, 28th – 30th October 2005), that emphasize the right to timely, truthful, comprehensive and legible information on human health and the environment.

Decide:

1. To provide continuity for the Work Group on Health and the Environment of this Forum, ensuring that all the subregions are represented here.

2. To continue promoting ties between health and environmental policies, strengthening the exchange of information between both sectors and fostering the development of integrated actions and projects in our countries and at a regional level.

3. To foster the development and implementation of the Cooperation Agenda endorsed in Mar del Plata in June 2005.

4. To include the identification and assessment of the environmental threats to human health and the prevention and minimization of their negative impact, in capacity-building activities and technical support for the implementation of the Bali Plan in the regional and subregional sphere, promoting the following points:

- e) gathering information and making an updated inventory of the projects and activities underway in the region that approach the problem of health and the environment;
- f) regional studies that include the determination of costs of environment degradation in terms of human health;
- g) promotion of practices and establishing infrastructure for the integral handling of solid wastes, including recycling and adequate disposal;
- h) projects for the correct disposal of chemical and hazardous wastes, including electronics;
- i) inclusion of solid and liquid residues management as integrated component on territorial land use and urban planning;
- j) consolidation of the regional centre for Central America and Mexico based in El Salvador in compliance with article 14 of the Basel Convention to support sustainable management of chemical substances.

5. To further inter-sector work with the Health Ministries of our countries as well as multiple levels of the government, encouraging dialogue, including meetings of a technical nature that include health and environment experts of our countries, and

promoting capacity-building activities and technical support for the international implementation of the Bali Plan of Action.

6. To stress that the GEO Health project provides the region with an initial set of tools for the integrated assessment of the status of the environment and health, requesting the commencement of pilot projects for the implementation of said tools and promoting the use of health and environment indicators.

7. To ask ITC for support in financial and technical terms for air pollution control projects, including the establishment of legal frameworks and an inventory of emission sources, as well as "specific environment" protection projects to protect workers in their work environment, and programmes to reduce the effects of indoor pollution.

8. To invite PAHO to contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee, in order to consolidate information and enhance inter-agency cooperation for integrated health and environment projects.

9. To urge regional and subregional entities to strengthen their regional and sub-regional Rapid Response Systems related to public health emergencies including *inter alia* vector borne diseases associated with the aftermath of natural disasters, and further urge PAHO to mainstream Public Health response into Early Warning Systems throughout the region and sub-regions.

10. To ask UNEP/ROLAC and the PAHO to continue strengthening inter-agency work and to promote dialogue among the Environment and Health Ministers.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 10

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Considering the decision adopted by the XIV Forum of Ministers, referring to the adaptation of the Environmental Training Network Work Programme and the implementation of ILAC and the incorporation of the Latin American and Caribbean Environment Education Programme (PLACEA).

Considering the need to extend and strengthen the current operation mechanisms of the Environmental Training Network Programme, especially regarding the adoption of decisions and the allocation of resources.

Considering that the First Meeting of Experts in Public Environmental Education Policies, Margarita (Venezuela, November 2004), approved the PLACEA organizational base.

Recognizing that Peru has been promoting a subregional Andean-Amazonian initiative for the implementation of environmental education actions (PANACEA) in the framework of the PLACEA, and as a result of the Margarita agreements.

Bearing in mind the launching in our region of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development as of 2005.

Recognizing the existence of a significant environmental education movement in Latin America and the Caribbean that reflects the growing commitment of communities with the education processes and their contribution to the construction of sustainable societies.

Convinced of the need to make progress in the strengthening of environmental education programmes as part of the State policies of various countries in the region through cooperation, communication and exchange processes among countries.

Decide:

- 1. To strengthen** the promotion, articulatory and coordinating capacity of the Network in support of the process of environmental education and training in the region's countries, particularly in the development of the PLACEA activities, the establishment and development of National Environmental Training and Education Networks.
- 2. To extend** the operation of the Network Trust Fund up to the XVI Meeting of the Forum of Ministers, asking UNEP to continue administering such Fund.
- 3. To ask** the countries of the region to pay off outstanding contributions, and to maintain their annual commitments with the Network Trust Fund.
- 4. To continue** the activities of the Environmental Training Network in accordance with the guidelines approved in the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment.
- 5. To establish** regional strategies and inter-government, inter-institutional and inter-agency cooperation mechanisms, including consortia and partnerships for the development of environmental training courses, including distance learning courses on priority subjects of the region that permit a multiplying process in the creation of capacities.
- 6. To continue** supporting the organization of national, regional and sub-regional congresses and seminars in order to channel actions on behalf of environmental education and foster Iberian-American cooperation in this field.
- 7. To continue** supporting teacher training, including local community teachers, within the basic education systems.
- 8. To continue** promoting and developing the community training project for sustainable development.
- 9. To ratify** the agreements reached in the First Meeting of Implementers of Public Environmental Education Policies held in Margarita, Venezuela in November 2004.
- 10. To reiterate** the request made to UNEP and the Inter-Agency Technical Committee to identify and manage financial resource, in accordance with their specific mandates and the contents of the ILAC, to support the implementation of PLACEA.
- 11. To support** the orientation and development of the PLACEA training activities approved in Margarita towards the furthering and strengthening of capacity-building at the national level, especially considering the 8 priority subjects identified by the

Forum in the framework of the ILAC, as well as the Johannesburg agreements and the millennium goals through formal, extra-mural and informal education.

12. To exhort the environment ministers of the countries to strengthen the environmental education units so that they may comply with the PLACEA guidelines.

13. To organize a workshop with the participation of the region's implementers of public environmental education policies in order to draw up the PLACEA Regional Action Plan (2006-2007), as well as the subregional plans so as to articulate the strategies that permit the implementation thereof.

14. To ratify the need to strengthen the presence of the Caribbean in the Programme in order to further Latin American integration.

15. To make progress in the promotion of new education strategies (including digital technology) that strengthen the participatory processes in the collective building of environmental knowledge, especially the knowledge rooted in the poorest communities and other traditionally excluded groups that permit an exchange of experiences and a dialogue of knowledge, while recognizing their contribution and furthering their articulation with the environment management actions proposed here.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

DECISION 11

ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS

Noting that the indicators approved of the Guiding Goals and Indicative Purposes of the Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC) strengthen the abilities of countries to measure their progress accomplishments and progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDG);

Observing the need to increase the availability and accessibility of information on environment and on the sustainable development, both at the national and sub-national level, in order to assess the progress made in the implementation of the ILAC and other regional and national initiatives;

Reaffirming the commitment of the countries of the region to speed up the harmonization of the methodologies used to gather environment statistics and indicators within the framework of the Forum of Ministers, through the construction of a regional environment information system focused on strengthening capacities and the consolidation of similar existing initiatives in the region, under the coordination of the Government of Costa Rica as coordinator of the Working group on environment indicators of the Forum;

Acknowledging the progress made in complying with decision 11 of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers and the First Meeting of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee of this Forum on environmental indicators and Recommendation 1 of the twenty-third period of sessions of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum;

Bearing in mind the Framework Agreement of Cooperation signed by UNEP and ECLAC in May 2005, whose main objectives are to strengthen and develop national technical capacities, contribute to improving the production and quality of environmental statistics and access to them in countries, ease the burden of environmental statistics reporting in the countries of the region, and promote the dissemination and use of environmental information to strengthen decision making processes and their assessments:

Decide:

- 1. Continue** with the activities of Working Group on Environmental Indicators of the Forum of Ministers coordinated by Costa Rica, including periodic revision of relevance of the indicators in relation to regional and sub-regional priorities.
- 2. Further** the application of ILAC indicators with their methodological sheets at the national level within the framework of the Environmental Statistics and Indicators Project of the Forum of Ministers in order to assess the progress made in the implementation of ILAC and ask UNEP and ECLAC for the economic support necessary to prepare and publish the corresponding report.
- 3. Ask** UNEP and the Government of Costa Rica, as the coordinating country of the Working Group of environmental indicators of the Forum of Ministers to advance on the preparation of methodological sheets of the remaining indicators of the ILAC Guiding Goals and Indicative purpose.
- 4. Promote** the use of the ILAC indicators in the region and in international fora to complement the indicators of the MDG and to ensure the suitable measuring of environmental elements, especially in Goal 7.
- 5. Promote also** the better application of environmental indicators in the national development plans.
- 6. Consolidate and strengthen** the collection, harmonization and systematization of environmental statistics and indicators within the framework of the Forum of Ministers under the coordination of UNEP and the Government of Costa Rica, as the coordinator of Working Group on environmental indicators of the Forum of Ministers, making use of the experience and contributions of the "Proyecto de la Evaluación de la Sostenibilidad en América Latina y el Caribe (ESALC) and the "Proyecto de la Red de Estadísticas Sociales y Ambientales de América Latina y el Caribe (REDESA)", coordinated by ECLAC, in addition to using the existing tools, such as the GEO Data Portal for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- 7. Finalize** the proposal of the Regional System of Environmental Statistics of Latin America and the Caribbean (SIREA) and develop a strategic plan for the implementation of SIREA and the development of national capacities to generate, process and disseminate statistics and indicators, including the development of national information systems.
- 8. Promote** the use of geospatial information and the improvement of access to basic geospatial and satellite information, furthering the standardization of the methodologies used and South-South collaboration, in order to help in the medium- and long-term environmental planning and management.

9. Support the proposal of the Working Group on environmental statistics of the Forum of Ministers to create a Technical Advisory Committee managed by the Government of Panama to serve the Working Group to facilitate work on geospatial information and the Earth Observation Systems in coordination with the subregional organizations. The Committee would consider developing and implementing the following activities:

- a) establish a platform to share information among countries and institutions with high capacity to manage satellite information and other geospatial applications;
- b) help those countries without capacity to build the same;
- c) create concrete products, such as inventory of the geospatial information generators and users and a Regional Atlas on environmental change in order to increase knowledge about the usefulness of geospatial information for decision-making.

10. Ask the agencies of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee, in accordance with the respective mandates of the agencies and other regional and subregional organizations, to work with the Working Group of environmental indicators of the Forum of Ministers in strengthening and consolidating the work on environmental indicators, geospatial information and the Earth Observation Systems.

11. Continue helping the preparation of GEO reports at the national, regional and subregional levels reflecting ILAC indicators as well as other specific priority themes.

12. Develop capacity to promote a regional environmental information system for standardization of methodologies considering the existing experience and lessons in the sub-regions and the countries.

13. Guide the development of environmental indicators within participatory environmental assessments in the way that constitute tools for social action on problems and environmental processes.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 12

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Considering that the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development established that one of the objectives of its Application Plan was the joint promotion of 10-year programmes to support and national and regional initiatives to accelerate change towards sustainable forms of consumption and production.

Bearing in mind that the countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region stated the need in the Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development to incorporate concepts of clean production in industry and to work in favour of sustainable development.

Bearing in mind that the results of the First, Second and Third Meetings of Government Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production in Latin America

and the Caribbean to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Managua, Nicaragua and whose results include: the proposal for the creation of the *Regional Council of Government Experts for Sustainable Consumption and Production* and a *Contribution for the Construction of a Regional Platform on Sustainable Consumption and Production*.

Considering that the results of the First Meeting were recognized as exemplary actions in the XI meeting of the Commission for Sustainable Development (New York, May 2003), and in the International Meeting on 10-Year Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (Marrakech, June 2003) as well as the results of the second international meeting of experts on sustainable production and consumption (Costa Rica 2005).

Decide:

- 1. Foster** the preparation of sustainable consumption and production policies, strategies and action plans in the countries of the region, in accordance with their institutional particularities.
- 2. Promote** the formation of national consultation bodies concerning sustainable production and consumption.
- 3. Capitalize** the experience of the countries and subregions that have developed and implemented cleaner production policies (CPP) in the region to prepare integrated sustainable production and consumption policies.
- 4. Promote** transversal institutional development and integration of the subject of sustainable production and consumption in the policies and agendas of other ministries.
- 5. Design and execute** a cooperation programme among the region's countries focused on technical training and assistance in sustainable production and consumption, based on the current experiences and knowledge in the region.
- 6. Execute** pilot projects to develop and evaluate sustainable production and consumption methodologies for the region.
- 7. Foster** the development of post-consumption responsibility strategies-programmes at a regional and subregional level and support the development of pilot projects to test effective implementation mechanisms.
- 8. Acknowledge** the recommendations made by the Council of Government Experts on sustainable production and consumption in the Third Meeting and make the necessary efforts to implement them in accordance with the specific possibilities and characteristics of each country.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 13

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS

Considering that the World Summit on Sustainable Development established the use and production of chemicals in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health until 2020 as one of the objectives of its Plan of Implementation, and endorsed the development of a strategic approach to the integrated management of chemicals at the international level;

Taking into account that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development urge the strengthening of cooperation and intra-regional coordination with the support of relevant agencies and institution in each region;

Recalling that decision 23/9 of UNEP's Governing Council establishes a set of actions to be undertaken by the Programme and the Governments towards the strengthening of initiatives in the context of international agreements on the sustainable management of chemicals, supporting the development of a strategic approach to the integrated management of chemicals, at an international level, strengthening actions aimed at the expansion of scientific, technical and technological knowledge on chemicals and their effect on human health and the environment, and adopting decisions to reduce the adverse impacts of chemicals on human health and the environment;

Considering the organization of the High Level International Conference on Chemical Safety to be held in Dubai in 2006, where the Strategic Approach to Integrated Chemicals Management shall be adopted, and that said approach demands additional efforts and resources from the countries in order to fulfill its commitments and achieve its objectives;

Decide:

- 1. To promote** the fulfilment of the objective of using and producing chemicals in ways that minimize their significant adverse effects on human health and the environment in the region until year 2020.
- 2. To resolutely support** the process for the development of a Strategic Approach to Integrated Chemicals Management (SAICM), ensuring that it includes the participation of all sectors involved, that it adequately considers the needs and situation of the countries in the region, that it includes the necessary means to guarantee its implementation, such as the availability of technical, technological and financial resources.
- 3. To urge** the agencies of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee, in line with their own mandates, to support the projects and actions undertaken by the countries in the region towards the implementation of the sustainable management of chemicals in the region, observing their commitments under the relevant international agreements and the objectives specified under SAICM.

4. **To further** the interaction and cross-sector work, *inter alia*, in the area of health in our countries, fostering dialogue and policy and programme coordination for the sustainable management of chemicals.
5. **To ask** UNEP and other agencies under the Inter-Agency Technical Committee to establish and strengthen initiatives and partnerships at the regional, subregional and interregional levels with a view to advance the implementation of programmes and actions for sustainable management of chemicals in the region, particularly in the context of capacity-building and technological support as outlined in the Bali Strategic Plan.
6. **To urge** the international agencies and the multilateral environmental agreements to strengthen regional structures aimed at the building of capacities and technology transfers optimising the potential of the regional centers to support the countries of the region in the implementation of sustainable chemicals management.
7. **To strengthen** the authorities and initiatives devoted to the dissemination and exchange of information related to the management of chemicals, considering the creation of a Latin American and Caribbean for the exchange of information on environmental components vulnerable to chemical substances, *inter alia*, soil.
8. **To generate** authorities for the exchange of experiences and information concerning the management of polluted sites, including the prevention, identification and restoration of these sites.
9. **To promote** synergies with other sectors involved in the management of chemicals.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 14

CLIMATE CHANGE

Recalling decision 14 on Climate Change adopted on the Fourteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean in Panama;

Recognizing with satisfaction the execution of the considerations of such decision;

Welcoming the adoption by Heads of State and Government of paragraphs 50-53 of resolution A/60/L1 adopted at the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2005, by the Ministers of Environment of Ibero-America at their Fifth Forum, and by the Ministers of Environment of the Andean Countries at the First Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Environment and Sustainable Development.

Decide:

1. **To embrace** the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol.
2. **To underline** the social economic and environmental vulnerability of the region with regards to the effects of climate change and the need to implement effective

measures to adapt to such effects. These measures should be incorporated to national development policies.

3. To congratulate the government of Argentina for the successful organization of the Tenth Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC that took place in Buenos Aires.

4. To recognize the efforts of the Canadian Government to successfully organize the Eleventh Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC and the First of the Kyoto Protocol that will take place in Montreal in November and December 2005.

5. To recognize the need to assure the continuity of the international regime to combat climate change, based in the Principle of Common and Differentiated Responsibilities in accordance with the respective capacities.

6. To promote the consolidation and strengthening of the multilateral process of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, with particular focus on the accomplishment of the present commitments and the participation of all the countries of Annex I of the mentioned Protocol.

7. To promote in these meetings and in the following years advances of the debate on a future regime on climate change within the framework of the UNFCCC, which integrates mitigation and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and which promotes a greater participation of the private sector in this efforts.

8. To support during the Eleventh Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC the approval of the five-year programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the context of decision 1/CP.10 and to promote the consideration of the contribution of sufficient resources by the developed countries for an effective function of the Special Fund on Climate Change.

9. To support during the First Meeting of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol, the adoption of the Marrakech Agreements of the Kyoto Protocol, in particular those related to the procedures of the accomplishment of agreements.

10. To recognize the role of the Clean Development Mechanism as an instrument that allows to match actions oriented to the reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions with those oriented towards the promotion of sustainable development; and to urge the First Meeting of the Parties to look for the most adequate means to expedite and strengthen the works of the Executive Meeting, based on the established in the Marrakech Agreements.

11. To support the proposal of the GRULAC to elect the Representative of Trinidad and Tobago as the next Chair of the SSBSTA and, to request the support of other regions to this effect. To support the work of Jamaica, as President of the Group of the 77 and China.

12. To ask the Inter Agency Technical Committee (ITC) to increase its contributions to the countries of the region in activities related to climate change and to support the work of the development of the network of climate systemic observation, early warning systems, education and research as well as capacity building activities.

13. To ask the CTI to strengthen the existing regional centres that work on climate change and to promote when necessary the establishment of new centres.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 15

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Recalling that in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC) the target to “increase renewable energy use in the region to at least 10% of its total energy consumption by the year 2010” was adopted and that in it, it is also recognized the important contribution that bilateral, subregional and regional activities can make for the promotion of sustainable development within the framework of the Platform for Action towards Johannesburg 2002, approved in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in October 2001;

Highlighting the positive contribution that the productive use of renewable sources of energy can do to sustainable development of the countries of the region for poverty mitigation, the increase of energy security and the diversification of the national and regional energetic matrixes; the reduction of the hydrological variability risks; the decentralization of the energy production; the improvement of the technological and the industrial base of the countries, and the globalization of the provision and use of electric energy;

Considering that the access to energy is fundamental to promote the economic growth, the protection to the environment and social equity;

Recognizing that the production of renewable energy provides among its advantages the creation of jobs, development of rural areas, and the reduction of greenhouse gases effects;

Considering the high potential and the diversification of the renewable energy of the region;

Recalling that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation proposes the improvement of the access to affordable and reliable energetic services to achieve sustainable development and to facilitate the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals, without putting aside the objective to halve the percentage of the population that lives in extreme poverty for the year 2015;

Considering that 13 years after the 1992 Rio Summit, and as indicated in the ILAC in 2002, the region still faces important challenges and that new emerging issues must be taken into account in order to make sustainable development a reality and to make the necessary changes to the development models under implementation, there is the need to revert the present trends of environmental degradation, both within the natural and urban environment, in particular to reduce poverty and the impacts that affect the countries of the region.

Decides:

1. **To recognize** the sovereign rights of the Latin America and the Caribbean countries in order to develop all the renewable energy sources in accordance with their potentialities and interests.

2. **To highlight** the importance that renewable energy sources have in the achievement of sustainable development and in the combat against poverty in the rural and isolated areas of the Latin America and the Caribbean countries.
3. **To reiterate** the need of supporting the development of national, subregional and regional renewable energy projects by financial institutions, including those of small scale in rural and isolated areas.
4. **To urge** the funds for renewable energy technologies in order to incorporate, in addition to the evaluation of potentials, the investment in the transfer of technologies, giving priority to the rural and isolated areas to secure their sustainable development.
5. **To support** the continuity and to impulse new researches, which establish the relationship between renewable energy and poverty in the countries of the region, associated to the human development rates and environmental indicators.
6. **To encourage** the development of renewable energy projects by promoting the establishment of decentralized and auto-supplying systems which permit sustainable development.
7. **To incorporate** the development of renewable energy sources in the Regional Action Plan 2006-2007 of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. **To promote** changes in the present models of production and consumption towards more efficient models in the use of energy.
9. **To continue** with the renewable energy working group of the Forum of Ministers in order to coordinate regional activities with the effective support of the agencies of the Inter agency Technical Committee, in accordance with the respective mandates of the member agencies.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 16

TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

Reiterating that the theme of Trade and Environment is one of the priorities for action in the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development (ILAC) and in the Plan of Implementation of the Johannesburg Summit;

Recognizing the importance the theme of environment now has in the negotiation and implementation of bilateral, regional and multilateral trade agreements;

Following up on and strengthening the coordination and cooperation efforts established in the Regional Action Plan of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean now in force;

Considering the need to strengthen environmental institutional development to face the new challenges posed by the relationship between trade and environment policies in the region and in the world, and that the goal is for them to strengthen each other in achieving sustainable development;

Reaffirming the need to develop mutually supportive and equitable conditions between trade and environment through the elimination of subsidies which had negative impact on the environment and the utilization of environmental measures that constitute disguised trade barriers should be avoided;

Reiterating that the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) underscores the urgent need to provide incentives at the national, regional and international level to encourage the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and to improve the operation of its markets by strengthening the capacity of developing countries to compete in the emerging biological resource markets.

Decide:

1. To request the Inter-Agency Technical Committee (ITC) to provide support for conducting, at the request of interested countries, comprehensive and strategic environmental assessments of the interrelationships between environmental and trade policies in the framework of trade agreements.

2. To promote dialogues and exchanges of experience among environment and trade authorities to create interest among finance and other ministries in incorporating, in a cross-cutting manner, environmental themes and considerations into funding requests for national projects.

3. To urge the ITC agencies, as well as other international agencies that participate in the region, in conformity with their respective mandates, to improve their dialogue and coordination mechanisms to support capacity-building programmes on the links between trade, environment and sustainable development, both in the context of negotiations for integration or trade agreements and in their implementation, taking into account the realities and needs of the countries, whenever possible.

4. To reaffirm the need to promote the exchange of experience and cooperation, particularly among the countries of the region, in the field of negotiating and implementing trade agreements and their interactions with environmental matters.

5. To promote and implement, in a coordinated manner among the ITC agencies, cooperation programmes to carry out activities on training and experience exchange regarding trade and environment, at the request of interested countries, placing emphasis on the following themes:

- a) negotiation capacities for integrating trade negotiations with multilateral environmental agreements;
- b) comprehensive strategic environmental assessments related to environmental impacts of integration and trade agreements;
- c) bio-trade;
- d) access to markets;
- e) valuation of environmental goods and services;
- f) regulation of standards;
- g) certification;

- h) training in the application of the regulatory framework for multilateral trade;
- i) intellectual property and systems of access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing.

6. To ensure that diverse training and cooperation instruments support the sustainable development of the countries of the region and prevent the use of environmental measures as veiled trade barriers;

7. To implement, among the ITC agencies, a distance course on Trade, Environment and Sustainability, taking advantage of the capacities and experience gained.

8. To aim at making trade policies serve as tools for strengthening sustainable development.

9. To build capacities in the field of environmental goods and services in the framework of the provisions in paragraph 31 of the Ministerial Declaration of Doha by providing elements that will contribute to reflecting sustainable development objectives and generate equitable benefits for all the countries members of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

10. To ask the ITC to carry out activities to facilitate access to financial resources for the implementation of this decision.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 17

ELABORATION FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE PREVENTION OF THE IMPACTS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Considering that the Latin American and Caribbean Region is extremely vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters and that climate change, rapid urbanization, environmental degradation are exacerbating these vulnerabilities;

Recognizing that there have been catastrophic losses in terms of lives, livelihoods, the environment and economic well-being, especially in recent years and that these losses have severely impeded our economic development, through the continual diversion of scarce resources from social , economic and infrastructure programmes to respond to these disasters;

Considering that the challenge of addressing existing vulnerability to natural disasters is likely to be exacerbated by the current trends in the weather patterns, the challenges of climate change and other non-traditional threats;

Reaffirming the importance to implement coherent public policies that promotes land planning strategies that minimize the risks and impacts of the natural disasters:

Decide:

1. To promote adoption of policies and strategies in order to minimize the risk and impact of natural disasters.

2. To apply interestedly the declaration and the framework of action of Hyogo (2005-2015) approved in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (Kobe, Japan).

3. To request UNEP in conjunction with the agencies of Inter-Agency Technical Committee and other international organizations which have competence to help the effort of the governments of the region to develop early warning systems for the man-made natural disaster, implementation of multiple-mode criteria and taking into account the framework of international strategy for disaster reduction for the early warning system for all the type of dangers.

4. To strengthen the capacity to prevent and respond to local community affected by these phenomena.

5 To request to UNEP and other agencies of the Inter Agency Technical Committee to:

- a) support the integration of environmental management initiatives with disaster reduction initiatives, including at the community level within the context of an integrated approach to risk management;
- b) support the development of databases on the vulnerability of natural resources;
- c) support the strengthening of national and regional capacity and mechanisms to improve natural disaster preparedness, mitigation and early warning capacity, increase public awareness about disaster preparedness and mainstream risk management into national planning processes;
- d) support the augmentation capacity to predict and respond to emergency situations including search and rescue capabilities, technical equipment for forecasting and communications, revision of building codes and preparation of vulnerability mapping;
- e) support regional and subregional institutions concerned with disaster management and the strengthening of policies and legislation to forecast, prevent and minimize the risks and impacts of natural disasters;
- f) support the development of affordable insurance and re-insurance schemes as an integral part of building resilience;
- g) carry out an assessment of the costs and benefits of possible actions and strategies for the prevention of the impact of the next natural disasters, which may include the protection of priority ecosystems, ecological organization of the territory, information systems, the management of risks in hydro-geological watersheds, among others. The above implies estimating the investment necessary for prevention, in order to avoid the costs implied by rehabilitations once there has been an impact as a result of a natural event;
- h) conduct a cost estimation of inaction that takes into account particular vulnerability of SIDS;

- i) make recommendations for an Action Plan for the Latin American and Caribbean Region in which indicators, goals and responsibilities are established;
- j) strengthen the lines for financing and mobilization of resources as well as international cooperation, within the framework of the agreements with each country, to help the countries in the region in designing and implementation of land use planning that makes it possible to prevent and minimize the impacts of natural disasters;
- k) present the results at the XVI Forum of Ministers in 2007.

DECISION 18

**COMMEMORATION OF 2006 AS THE
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DESERTS AND DESERTIFICATION**

Recognizing the importance that the decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations, declaring year 2006 as the "International Year of Deserts and Desertification", adopted on 22 of November of 2004, by Resolution A/RES/58/212, has for environmental management;

Endorsing the decision of the Tenth Regional Meeting of Focal Points of Latin America and the Caribbean parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification that was held 29 - 31 August 2005 in the city of Sao Luís, State of Maranhon, Brazil, which makes reference to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in its capacity as Secretariat Pro Tempore of the Andean Community, and Uruguay, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of MERCOSUR, urge all the involved and interested governments to incorporate in their speeches, pronouncements and documents, the reference to the decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations above indicated;

Alerting that land degradation processes, due to natural and anthropogenic processes in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid environments, have increased with the subsequent augmentation of the vulnerability of the least assisted rural populations as well as their agricultural, cattle and agroforestral production systems;

Conscious of the need to create environmental sensitivity at all the levels of the society, in particular at the instances of political decision and rural communities;

Decide:

1. To favourably welcome the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the proposal of the Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification to commemorate the International Year of Deserts and Desertification in 2006

2. To promote in the countries of the region, a vast program for the commemoration of the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, to be executed in 2006, and to make sure that includes the organization of regional events and public acts at the community level.

3. **To inform** all public powers of countries of the region at different levels about this decision and urge their authorities to join them.
4. **Recommend** the implementation of the Convention at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels during the biennium 2006-2007 according to decision 1 of the Meeting of UNCCD for Latin America and the Caribbean which was held in the State of Maranhao, Brazil in August, 2005.
5. **To request** financing agencies and other bilateral and multilateral partners to reinforce and deepen their support to the implementation process of the priorities that have been identified in the National Action Programmes to Combat Desertification and Drought.
6. **To strengthen** synergies with other Conventions, particularly with the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
7. **To support** the proposal presented by the Dominican Republic to the Executive Secretariat of the Convention of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought, for the organization of the 5th Africa – Latin America and the Caribbean Forum that will be held in Dominican Republic in the year 2006.
8. **To welcome** the acceptance of the CoP of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought to bring to the region the Fifth Meeting of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, to be held in Argentina in the second half of 2006.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 19

EVALUATION OF THE MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEMS

Recalling that the Millennium Development Goal of guaranteeing sustainability in the environment was reaffirmed in the World Summit for Sustainable Development, with the establishment of the incorporation of the principles of sustainable development as one of the goals in the national policies and programmes and the reversal of the laws of natural resources.

Considering also that the Millennium Ecosystems Evaluation may become a tool to adopt decisions related to the utilization of natural resources and conservation of ecosystems.

Bearing in mind that there is already a degree of experience for many of the services provided by the ecosystems.

Bearing in mind that the health of the ecosystems has been considered at a global level as a high priority, especially because of the need to *recognize* the services that they provide.

DECIDE

1. **To appraise** the Report on the Evaluation of Millennium Ecosystems, as a contribution to the analysis and information concerning the current status of the ecosystems.
2. **To recognize** the need to further and perfect criteria and methodologies to make such assessments so that they may become the tools to adopt decisions in the countries.

3. To ask the ITC agencies to consider in the framework of their mandates the building of the corresponding capacities of the countries in the region.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

DECISION 20

**GRATITUDE TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE
BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA**

RECOMMEND:

To express the deep gratitude of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean to the People and Government of Venezuela for the generous hospitality extended during this Meeting.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Appendix 1 to Annex II

Appendix to Decision 8

RECOMMENDATION TO THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE FORUM OF MINISTERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF THE BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION

The experts participating in the «*Regional Workshop on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization, and Associated Traditional Knowledge*», held in Havana, Cuba, on 21 and 22 June 2005, agree to ask the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean to use the **attached considerations** arising from this workshop as a contribution to the discussions and to the formulation of a common regional position.

CONSIDERATIONS

A. International Regime on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-Sharing

1. It is recognized that an international regime or system is composed of various elements, some of which already exist and others that should be developed in the negotiation framework initiated at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
2. It is also recognized that this regime requires binding elements.
3. There is agreement on the need to promote effective compliance with the CBD obligations and, in particular, article 15 and 8 (j).
4. Elements which the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing could influence or have as objectives were identified, as follows:

I. The development of measures in the countries that use genetic resources, including:

- The promotion of adjustments and modifications in the intellectual property regime to include requirements of origin and legal provenance in applications for intellectual property rights;
- Mechanisms for fair and equitable sharing of benefits.
- Measures to guarantee technology cooperation and transfer, in compliance with the CBD.

II. The development of resource follow-up and monitoring mechanisms to help verify the agreed access conditions. A certificate of legal provenance could be an alternative mechanism, as well as the disclosure of the country of origin on applications for intellectual property rights.

III. The development of measures to guarantee fulfilment of and compliance with the CBD obligations and of the conditions agreed to in the access contracts

and other instruments, particularly those referring to Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and other obligations arising from the international regime itself.

IV. To guarantee the enforcement of the national laws on access.

5. The need to explore mechanisms to obtain economic benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and channel them into the genetic resources' countries of origin, for the conservation of biodiversity and the protection of traditional knowledge, was suggested.

6. It was recognized that this theme was being dealt with more or less directly in various international forums, pointing up the need for closer ties among the different State representatives and entities (economic-trade and environmental) revolving around negotiations on access and benefit-sharing, so as to arrive at a unified position among the countries of the region.

B. The use of terms, definitions and/or glossaries, as appropriate

1. General considerations

I. The scope of the definitions should refer only to the legal inclusion of a specific juridical instrument, without prejudice to the technical or juridical definitions in each country.

2. Specific considerations

II. Clear negotiation strategies must be established so that progress in the negotiations is not subject to the definition of terms, and viceversa, and to prevent obstacles to the discussion in this sense. The region should produce its own process for advocating the theme.

III. Not all the definitions proposed in this item of the negotiating process are necessary for an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing.

IV. Efforts should be made for more in-depth construction of definitions that will be decisive to the scope and sphere of the international regime.

V. Practical exercises with existing definitions are needed to clarify the associated problems. The exercises should be granted priority for certain terms.

VI. In the theme of derivatives, a great deal of target technical information should be available and their scope and sphere should be very well defined, just as in the definition of genetic resources, since they may be comprehensive definitions.

C. Other approaches; Certificates of Origin, Source or Legal Provenance

1. The certificate is a useful instrument and its inclusion in the international regime should consequently be supported.

I. Objective

i. The objective of the certificate should be associated with the possibility of monitoring and verifying compliance with the conditions under which access was granted.

- ii. The idea of the certificate initially arose as legal provenance, and this idea of legality in access is the central concept, beyond the country of origin or the source.

II. Desirable characteristics of the certificate

- i. It is basically, but not exclusively, reviewed in applications for patents, which remains the most difficult point in the negotiation.
- ii. It is used for review at the end of the process and not for step-by-step tracing.
- iii. It accounts for the legality of the access.
- iv. It should be a positive sign and, consequently, should serve as an incentive for users.
- v. It should remain a simple concept.
- vi. It should be practical and low-cost.
- vii. It should be issued by whoever grants the access permit.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Annex II

A. Governmental Delegations

Antigua and Barbuda

Ms. Diann Black-Layne, Chief Environment Officer
Ministry of Works, Transportation and the Environment
No 7 Prime Ministers Pride, Factory Rode
St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Tel.: (+ 1-268) 462-4625, 562-2568
Fax: (+ 1-268) 462-4628
C.E./E-mail: mail@environmentdivision.info
Sitio Web: www.environmentdivision.info

Argentina

Sr. Luis Couyoupetrou, Subsecretario
**Subsecretaría de Planificación,
Ordenamiento y Calidad Ambiental**
Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable, Ministerio de
Salud y Ambiente
San Martín No. 451, 1er Piso
C1004AA1 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel.: (+ 54-11) 4348-8311
Fax: (+ 54-11) 4348-8355
C.E./E-mail:
lcouyoupetrou@medioambiente.gov.ar
Sitio Web:

Sra. Andrea Brusco, Directora de Promoción Ambiental
y de Desarrollo Sustentable
Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable
Ministerio de Salud y Ambiente
San Martín No. 459, 2º piso
C-1004-AA1 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel.: (+ 54-11) 4348-8444/57, 4379-9000
Fax: (+ 54-11) 43488443
C.E./E-mail: abrusco@medioambiente.gov.ar
Sitio Web: www.medioambiente.gov.ar

Sra. Mirta Elizabeth Laciari
Coordinadora SGT 6 Mercosur - SA y DS
Ministerio de Salud y Ambiente
Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable
San Martín No. 459
C-1004-AA1 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel.: (+ 54-11) 4348-8673
Fax: (+ 54-11) 4348-8844
Sitio Web: www.medioambiente.gov.ar

Bahamas

Mr. Donald Cooper, Under-Secretary
**The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology
Commission**
Ministry of Health and Environmental Services
Cecil Wallace - Whitfield Centre
P.O. Box CB. 10980
Nassau, Bahamas

Tel.: (+ 1-242) 327-4691
Fax: (+ 1-242) 327-4646
C.E./E-mail: bestnbs@hotmail.com
Sitio Web:
www.bahamas.gov.bshttp://www.bahamas.gov.bs

Barbados

Ms. Elizabeth Thompson, Minister
Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment
S.P. Musson Building, Hincks Street
Hincks Street, St. Michael
Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 467-5710, 467-5721, 467-5715
Fax: (+ 1-246) 437-8859
C.E./E-mail: meenr@sunbeach.net /
bgis@barbados.gov.bb
Sitio Web: www.environment.gov.bb

Mr. Travis Sinckler
Senior Environmental Officer
Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment
SP Musson Building, First Floor, Hincks Street
St. Michael, Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 467- 5715
Fax: (+ 1-246) 437-8859
C.E./E-mail: espumarine@caribsurf.com

Mr. Hugh Julian Sealy
Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment
Barbados Commission on Sustainable Development
SP Musson Building, Hincks Street
St. Michael, Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 467-5700
Fax: (+ 1-246) 437-8859
C.E./E-mail: lsealy@newwaterinc.com

Mr. Anthony Headley
Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment
Jemmotts Lane
Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 436-4820
Fax: (+ 1-246) 228-7103
C.E./E-mail: enveng@caribsurf.com

Sr. Philip St. Hill, Consejero
Embajada de Barbados
Edificio los Frailes, Piso 5, Chuau
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 991-6721
Fax: (+ 58-212) 991-0333

Belize

Mr. Martín Alegría, Chief Environmental Officer
Ministry of Natural Resources Local Government and the Environment
10/12 Ambergris Ave.
Belmopan, Belize

Tel.: (+ 501) 822-2542
Fax: (+ 501) 822-2862
C.E./E-mail: envirodept@btlnet.net
Sitio Web:
www.mnrei.gov.bzhttp://www.mnrei.gov.bz

Mr. Servulo Baeza, Vice-Minister
Ministry of Natural Resources, Local Government and the Environment
Market Square
Belmopan, Belize

Tel.: (+ 501) 822-2542
Fax: (+ 501) 822-2862
C.E./E-mail: envirodept@btlnet.net
Sitio Web:
www.mnrei.gov.bzhttp://www.mnrei.gov.bz

Bolivia

Sra. Marianela Hidalgo Clavos
Viceministra de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible
La Paz, Bolivia

Tel.: (+ 591-2) 211-6000
C.E./E-mail: h.hidalgo@megalink.com

Sr. Jorge Mariaca, Técnico
Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación
Av. Mariscal Santa Cruz No. 1092
Esq. Oruro, Ex Edificio Comibol
La Paz, Bolivia

C.E./E-mail: pcortes@mds.gov.bo

Sr. Alex Suárez, Técnico
Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación
Av. Mariscal Santa Cruz No. 1092
Esq. Oruro, Ex Edificio Comibol
La Paz, Bolivia

C.E./E-mail: pcortes@mds.gov.bo

Brazil

Sr. Joao Bosco Senra, Secretario de Recursos Hídricos
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Secretaría de Recursos Hídricos
SGAN 601 - Lote 01 - Ed. CODEVASF, 4° andar - sala 401
CEP 70.830-901 Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 4009-1291/1292/1293
Fax: (+ 55-61) 4009-1820
C.E./E-mail: joao.senra@mma.gov.br

Sr. Volney Zanardi, Director Articulacao Institucional
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Esplanada dos Ministerios, Bloco B, Sala 851
Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Sra. Raquel Breda Dos Santos, Asesora Técnica de la Asesoría
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Esplanada dos Ministerios, Bloco B, 5° Andar, sala 532
Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 4009-1287
Fax: (+ 55-61) 3322-8939
C.E./E-mail: raquel.breda@mma.gob.br
Sitio Web:
www.mma.gob.brhttp://www.mma.gob.br

Sra. Claudia Grossi, Asesoría Internacional
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) (+55-61)
Fax: (+ 55-61) (+55-61)

Sra. Maria Ceicilene Rego, Asesora Técnica
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Esplanada dos Ministerios, 31 B, sala 822
Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 4009-xx xx
Fax: (+ 55-61) 4009-xx xx
C.E./E-mail: maria.rego@mma.gov.br

Sra. Sheila M. De Oliveira, Consejero
Embajada de la República de Brasil en Venezuela
Calle Chaguaramas, Centro Ger. Mattedano, 6to. Piso
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 261-5505
Fax: (+ 58-212) 261-0601
C.E./E-mail:
sheiladeoliveira@embajadabrasil.org.ve

Chile

Sr. Alvaro Sapag Rajevic
Jefe del Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales
Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente (CONAMA)
Teatinos No. 254
Santiago, Chile

Tel.: (+ 56-2) 40-5748
Fax: (+ 56-2) 40-5788
C.E./E-mail: asapag@conama.cl
Sitio Web: www.conama.cl

Colombia

Sr. Oscar Darío Amaya Navas, Viceministro de Ambiente
Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial
Calle 37 No. 8-40, 4° piso
Bogotá, D.C., Colombia

Tel.: (+ 57-1) 288-6877, 288-6020
Fax: (+ 57-1) 288-9892, 340-6227
C.E./E-mail: oamaya@minambiente.gov.co /
dministro@minambiente.gov.co
Sitio Web:
www.minambiente.gov.co<http://www.minambiente.gov.co>

Sra. Alicia Lozano Vila, Asesora
Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales
Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y Desarrollo Territorial
Calle 37 No. 8-40, 4° piso
Bogotá, D.C., Colombia

Tel.: (+ 57-1) 288-9860 Ext. 185, Ext. 124, 125
Fax: (+ 57-1) 288-6954, 288-9835
C.E./E-mail: alozano@minambiente.gov.co
Sitio Web:
www.minambiente.gov.co<http://www.minambiente.gov.co>

Sra. Patricia Cortés Ortiz, Primer Secretario
Embajada de Colombia
Segunda Av. Campo Alegre, Edificio Country Suites
1060 Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 216-9596 ext. 103 y 104
Fax: (+ 58-212) 261-1358
C.E./E-mail: pscol@net-uno.net

Costa Rica

Sr. Rónald Vargas Brenes
Oficial de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales
Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía (MINAE)
Dirección General de Cooperación y Relaciones Internacionales
Carreterra a Sabanilla, frente Librería UNED No. 1, Edificio
SETENA
San Pedro, San José, Costa Rica

Tel.: (+ 506) 253-2596
Fax: (+ 506) 253-2625
C.E./E-mail: rvbrenes@yahoo.com
Sitio Web:
www.minae.go.cr<http://www.minae.go.cr>

Sr. Agustín Gómez
Coordinador Unidad de Estadísticas
Universidad de Costa Rica, Unidad de Estadísticas
Observatorio del Desarrollo
San José, Costa Rica

Tel.: (+ 506) 207-4857
Fax: (+ 506) 207-4854
C.E./E-mail: agomez@odd.ucr.ac.cr

Cuba

Sr. Orlando Rey Santos, Director
Dirección de Medio Ambiente
Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente
33 No. 3612 entre 36 y 42, Playa
La Habana, Cuba

Tel.: (+ 53-7) 867-0598
Fax: (+ 53-7) 867-0615
C.E./E-mail: orlando@citma.cu
Sitio Web: www.medioambiente.cu
<http://www.medioambiente.cu>

Dominican Republic

Sra. Olga Eulalia Luciano López, Directora de Planificación
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Oficina Sectorial de Planificación, Edificio Plaza Merengue
Av. 27 de febrero esquina Tiradentes, Ensanche Naco
Santo Domingo, República Dominicana

Tel.: (+ 1-809) 472-1194, 682-8615
Fax: (+ 1-809) 472-1198
C.E./E-mail: oluciano@ceiba.gov.do
Sitio Web: www.ceiba.gov.do

Ecuador

Sr. Luis Cáceres, Consultor Ministerio
Ministerio del Ambiente
Amazonas y Eloy Alfaro, Edificio MAG, piso 7, Cambio
Climático
Quito, Ecuador

Tel.: (+ 593-2) 250-8510
Fax: (+ 593-2) 250-8510
C.E./E-mail: lcaceres@ambiente.gov.ec /
lecaceress@yahoo.es
Sitio Web:
www.ambiente.gov.ec

Sr. Wilson Rojas, Coordinador Bioseguridad y Recursos
Genéticos
Ministerio de Ambiente
Dirección de Biodiversidad
Avenida Amazonas y Eloy Alfaro, Edificio MAG, piso 8
Quito, Ecuador

Tel.: (+ 593-2) 250-6337
Fax: (+ 593-2) 256-3422
C.E./E-mail: wrojas@ambiente.gov.ec /
fridapin@ambiente.gov.ec
Sitio Web:
www.ambiente.gov.ec

El Salvador

Sra. Rina Castellanos de Jarquín
Directora de Cooperación Internacional y Proyectos
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Calle y Colonia Las Mercedes, Instalaciones ISTA, Edificio MARN
San Salvador, El Salvador

Tel.: (+ 503) 2267-9415, 2267-9413
Fax: (+ 503) 2267-9412
C.E./E-mail: jarquinr@marn.gob.sv /
despacho@marn.gob.sv /
Sitio Web:
www.marn.gob.sv

Sr. Orlando Altamirano
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Kilómetro 5.5 carretera a Santa Tecla
Calle y Colonia Las Mercedes
San Salvador, El Salvador

Sitio Web:
www.marn.gov.sv

Grenada

Mr. Christopher Joseph
Environmental Protection Officer
Ministry of Health
Ministerial Complex, Tanteen
St. George's, Grenada

Tel.: (+ 1-473) 440-3485, 473-415-2226
Fax: (+ 1-473) 440-4127
C.E./E-mail: health@gov.gd /
Krisppj@hotmail.com

Mr. Andre Worme
Ag. Chief Environmental Health Officer
Ministry of Health and Environment
Ministerial Complex, First and Second Floors
St. George's, Grenada

Tel.: (+ 1-473) 440-3177
Fax: (+ 1-473) 440-4127
C.E./E-mail: min_healthgrenada@caribsurf.com
Sitio Web:
www.grenadaconsulate.com
<http://www.grenadaconsulate.com>

Guyana

Mr. Navin Chandarpal
Adviser to the President on Sustainable Development
Office of the President
New Garden Street,
Georgetown, Guyana

Tel.: (+ 592-2) 23-5233
Fax: (+ 592-2) 23-5186
C.E./E-mail: navinc51@yahoo.com /
moh@sdnp.org.gy
Sitio Web:
www.sdn.org.gy/moh
<http://www.sdn.org.gy/moh>

Mr. Ramesh Lilwah, Biodiversity Specialist
Environment and Protection Agency (EPA)
Greater, Turkeyen,
Georgetown, Guyana

Tel.: (+ 592-2) 22-5784 Ext. 38
Fax: (+ 592-2) 22-2442
C.E./E-mail: rameshlilwah@yahoo.com /
rlilwah@epaguyana.org
Sitio Web:
www.epaguyana.org
<http://www.epaguyana.org>

Haiti

Mr. Yves André Wainright, Minister
Ministere de L'Environnement
181, Haut de Turgeau
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Tel.: (+ 509) 245-7572, 245-9309, 245-7585,
245-0635
Fax: (+ 509) 245-7360, 223-9340
C.E./E-mail: yawainright@yahoo.com
Sitio Web: www.rehred-haiti.net/members/mde/index.html

Mr. Fritz Nau, Asesor, Director Adjunto
Ministry of Environment
181, Haut de Turgeau, Ministère de l'Environnement
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Tel.: (+ 509) 245-7572, 551-7052
Fax: (+ 509) 245-7360
C.E./E-mail: fritznu@yahoo.fr /
fritznu@hotmail.com

Mr. Astrel Joseph, Regional Director
Ministry of Environment
Water and Sanitation
Haut de Tujgreau No. 181,
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Tel.: (+ 509) 244-7643, 245-7572
Fax: (+ 509) 245-7360
C.E./E-mail: astreljo@yahoo.fr

Honduras

Sr. Carlos Humberto Pineda Mejía
Vice-Ministro de Ambiente
Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente (SERNA)
Edificio Principal, 100 metros al sur del Estadio Nacional
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Tel.: (+ 504) 235-4154
Fax: (+ 504) 235-4154
C.E./E-mail: cahupi2@yahoo.com
Sitio Web: www.serna.gob.hn

Jamaica

Sr. Donovan Stanberry, Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Land and Environment
16 A Half Way Tree Road 5
Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) 926-7648
Fax: (+ 1-876) 929-2885
C.E./E-mail: donberry.mle@cwjamaica.com
Sitio Web: www.mle.gov.jm

Ms. Leonie Barnaby, Senior Director
Ministry of Land and Environment
16A Half Way Tree Road
5 Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) 929-2792, 920-9117
Fax: (+ 1-876) 920-7267
C.E./E-mail: nrcareg@mailinfochan.com /
enid.mle@ciojamaica.com
Sitio Web: www.mle.gov.jm

Sr. Audley Rodríguez, Embajador
Embajada de Jamaica
Caracas, Venezuela

Mexico

Sr. José Luis Luege Tamargo, Secretario
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)
Lateral periférico sur No. 4209 - 6° piso
Fraccionamiento Jardines de la Montaña
14210 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 5628-0604/06, 5628-0600
Fax: (+ 52-55) 5628-0643/44, 5628-0653/54
C.E./E-mail: secretario@semarnat.gob.mx
Sitio Web: www.semarnat.gob.mx

Sr. Enrique M. Loaeza Tovar, Embajador
Embajada de México
Ed. Forum, Piso 5, El Rosal
Chacao Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 952-5506
Fax: (+ 58-212) 952-3003
C.E./E-mail: eloaeza@embamex.com.ve

Sr. José Manuel Bulas, Coordinador
Unidad Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales (UCAI) (SEMARNAT)
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Av. San Jerónimo No. 458, 3er. Piso
Col. Jardines del Pedregal
01900 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 56283906
C.E./E-mail: jbulas@semarnat.gob.mx
Sitio Web: www.semarnat.gob.mx

Sra. Mara Murillo Correa, Directora General Adjunta
Acuerdos Ambientales Multilaterales (SEMARNAT)
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Periférico Sur 4209, primer piso, ala A
Col. Jardines la Montaña
C.P.14210 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 5628-3901
Fax: (+ 52-55) 5628-0694
C.E./E-mail: mara.murillo@semarnat.gob.mx
Sitio Web: www.semarnat.gob.mx

Sra. Luz María Ortiz Ortiz, Directora de la Agenda Verde
Unidad de Coordinación de Asuntos Internacionales (UCAI) (SEMARNAT)
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
Blvd. Adolfo Ruíz Cortínez 4209 primer piso
Col. Jardines de la Montaña, Tlalpan
14210 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 5628-0600 ext.12207
Fax: (+ 52-55) 5628-0694
C.E./E-mail: luz.ortiz@semarnat.gob.mx
Sitio Web: www.semarnat.gob.mx

Sra. Gabriela Colín Ortega, Consejera para Asuntos Políticos
Embajada de México en Venezuela
Ed. Forum, Piso 5, El Rosal
Chacao, Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 952-7064
Fax: (+ 58-212) 952-3003
C.E./E-mail: gcolin@embamex.com.ve

Sra. Alejandra López Carbajal
Subdirectora de Cambio Climático
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT)
Unidad Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales
Av. Universidad 1900 Edificio 21, Depto 104
Uhaltillo Universidad
04350 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 5628-0600 Ext. 12202
Fax: (+ 52-55) 5628-0694
C.E./E-mail: alejandra.lopez@semarnat.gob.mx
Sitio Web: www.semarnat.gov.mx

Nicaragua

Sr. C. Arturo Harding Lacayo, Ministro
Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARENA)
Km 12.5 de la Carretera Norte, frente Loria Franca Industrial
Las Mercedes
Managua, Nicaragua

Tel.: (+ 505-2) 263-1667, 263-1273, 263-1950, 263-2095
Fax: (+ 505-2) 263-1274, 233-0133
C.E./E-mail: carturoharding@marena.gob.ni / mins_mar@sdnnc.org.ni
Sitio Web: www.marena.gob.ni

Sr. José Santos Mendoza Arteaga, Secretario General
Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARENA)
Km 12.5 de la Carretera Norte, frente a la zona Franca Industrial
Las Mercedes - Managua, Nicaragua

Tel.: (+ 505-2) 233-1684
Fax: (+ 505-2) 233-1317
C.E./E-mail: jsmendoza@marena.gob.com
Sitio Web: www.marena.gob.ni

Sr. Manuel Salvador Abaunza, Embajador
Embajada de Nicaragua
Av. El Paseo, Prados del Este
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 977-3289/3270
Fax: (+ 58-212) 977-3973
C.E./E-mail: msabaunza@yahoo.com

Sr. Marlon Pérez Miranda, Asesor de la Dirección Superior
Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARENA)
Km 12.5 de la Carretera Norte, frente La Zma Franca Industrial
Las Mercedes UAM-299
Managua, Nicaragua

Tel.: (+ 505-2) 63-1273
Fax: (+ 505-2) 63-1274
C.E./E-mail: ecomarlon@yahoo.com / ecomarlon@marena.gob.ni
Sitio Web: www.marena.gob.ni

Panamá

Sra. Ligia Castro de Dones, Administradora General
Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM)
Albrook Edificio 804, C. Zona 843
Balboa, Ancón
P.O. Box 2016
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 315-0527, 315-0548
Fax: (+ 507) 315-0663, 315-1027
C.E./E-mail: admin.general@anam.gob.pa / n.morales@anam.gob.pa / l.castro@anam.gob.pa
Sitio Web: www.anam.gob.pa

Sra. Zoila Aquino, Directora de Cooperación Internacional
Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM)
Albrook Edificio 804
Balboa, Ancón
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 315-0247
Fax: (+ 507) 315-1027
C.E./E-mail: z.aquino@anam.gob.pa
Sitio Web: www.anam.gob.pa

Sra. Lamed Gimel Mendoza Lámbiz
Asesora del Despacho Superior
Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (ANAM)
Albrook, Edificio 804
Balboa, Ancón
Apartado 3-307, Zona 3
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 315-0548, 315-0527
Fax: (+ 507) 315-0661
C.E./E-mail: l.mendoza@anam.gob.pa
Sitio Web: www.anam.gob.pa

Sra. Virginia Fernández, Administradora
Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano del Atlántico Panameño
Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 232-6601
Fax: (+ 507) 232-6643
C.E./E-mail: vfernandez@cbmap.org
Sitio Web: www.cbmap.org

Sra. Aleida Salazar Rodríguez, Directora Nacional de
Áreas Protegidas y Vida Silvestre
Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente
Albrook 804
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 315-0855
C.E./E-mail: asalazar@anam.gob.pa
Sitio Web: www.anam.gob.pa

Paraguay

Sra. María Olivia Trinidad Sanabria, Jefa de Recursos Naturales
Cancillería
Asunción, Paraguay

Tel.: (+ 595-21) 44-6796
Fax: (+ 595-21) 44-6796
C.E./E-mail: mtrinidad@mre.gov.py
Sitio Web: www.mre.gov.py

Sr. Cristian Leguizamón, Agregado
Embajada de Paraguay en Venezuela
Caracas, Venezuela

C.E./E-mail: embaparven@cantv.net

Sr. Roberto Amarilla, Coordinador Nacional del SGT 6 Medio
Ambiente / MERCOSUR
Secretaría del Ambiente
Presidencia de la República
Avenida Madame Lynch No. 3500
Asunción, Paraguay

Tel.: (+ 595-21) 61-5812
Fax: (+ 595-21) 61-5807
C.E./E-mail: roberto_amarilla@yahoo.com
Sitio Web: www.seam.gov.py

Peru

Sr. Carlos Loret de Mola de Lavalle, Presidente
Consejo Nacional del Ambiente (CONAM)
Presidencia del Consejo de Ministros
Av. Guardia Civil No. 205
San Borja
41 Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) 225-6997, 225-5370,
225-5361 al 67
Fax: (+ 51-1) 225-5369, 225-1202
C.E./E-mail: cldemola@conam.gob.pe /
mariano@conam.gob.pe
Sitio Web:
www.conam.gob.pehttp://www.conam.gob.pe

Sr. Mariano Castro Sánchez-Moreno, Secretario Ejecutivo
Consejo Nacional del Ambiente (CONAM)
Av. Guardia Civil No. 205, San Borja
41 Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) 225-5370 ext. 213
Fax: (+ 51-1) 225-5369, 225-1202
C.E./E-mail: mariano@conam.gob.pe
Sitio Web: www.conam.gob.pe

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Mr. Nigel Carty, Minister
Ministry of Health and the Environment
Church Street
P.O. Box 186
Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis

Tel.: (+ 1-869) 465-2521, 465-2421 Ext. 1085
Fax: (+ 1-869) 465-1316, 466-8574
C.E./E-mail: pshande@caribsurf.com /
minhwa@caribsurf.com

Saint Lucia

Mr. Theophilus F. John, Minister
**Ministry of Physical Development, Environment and
Housing**
Graham Louisy, Administrative Building
The Waterfront
P.O. Box 709
Castries, St. Lucia

Tel.: (+ 1-758) 468-4401 / 453-0715
Fax: (+ 1-758) 452-2506, 458-2330
C.E./E-mail: minister@planning.gov.lc
Sitio Web: www.stlucia.gov.lc/agencies

Sra. Marcia Philbert-Jules, Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Physical Development Environment and Housing
Waterfront
P.O. Box: 709
Castries, St. Lucia

Tel.: (+ 1-758) 468-4418/19
Fax: (+ 1-758) 452-2506
C.E./E-mail: ps@planning.gov.lc

Suriname

Ms. Henna Joan Uiterloo, Environmental Policy Officer
Ministry of Labour, Technological Development and Environment
Heerenstraat No. 40, 3rd floor
Paramaribo, Suriname

Tel.: (+ 597) 475368
Fax: (+ 597) 420960
C.E./E-mail: milieu_atm@yahoo.com

Trinidad and Tobago

Mr. Earl Nesbitt, Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment
Sacred Heart Building
16-18 Sackville Street
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Tel.: (+ 1-868) 625-6083, 623-4853
Fax: (+ 1-868) 625-7003
C.E./E-mail: earlnesbitt@gmail.com

Mr. Dave McIntosh, Chief Executive Officer
and Managing Director
Environmental Management Authority
8 Elizabeth St. - St.Clair
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Tel.: (+ 1-868) 628-8042
C.E./E-mail: dmcintosh@ema.co.tt

Mr. David Persaud, Environmental Manager
Ministry of Public Utilities and the Environment
Sacred Heart Building
16-18 Sackville Street
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Tel.: (+ 1-868) 623-1912 ext. 500
Fax: (+ 1-868) 625-7003
C.E./E-mail: dpersaud@pubutilenv.gov.tt

Uruguay

Sr. Alain Santandreu, Asesor del Ministro
Ministerio de Vivienda, Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente
Calle Zabala No. 1427, entre 25 de mayo y Rincón
Montevideo, Uruguay

Tel.: (+ 598-2) P17-0710 Int. 1406, 916-3989
Fax: (+ 598-2) 916-2914
C.E./E-mail: secmtro@mvtoma.gub.uy
alain_santandreu@yahoo.com
Sitio Web: www.mvtoma.gub.uy

Sra. María del Luján Jara Rodríguez, Asesor Técnico
Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente (DINAMA)
11200 Montevideo, Uruguay

Tel.: (+ 598-2) 917-0710, 628-7998
Fax: (+ 598-2) 917-1710 ext. 4321
Sitio Web: www.dinama.gub.uy

Sra. Magdalena Preve, Asesor Técnico
Dirección Nacional de Medio Ambiente (DINAMA)
Galicia 1133/39 3er piso
Montevideo, Uruguay

Tel.: (+ 598-2) 917-0710 Ext.4310
Fax: (+ 598-2) 917-0710 Ext. 4321
C.E./E-mail: mpreve@ozono.gub.uy
Sitio Web: www.dinama.gub.uy

Sra. Ruth Aramburu, Coordinadora y Consejera
Embajada de Uruguay
Av. Francisco de Miranda, Edificio Delta, Piso 8, Altamira
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 261-7603
Fax: (+ 58-212) 266-9233
C.E./E-mail: uruvene@cantv.net

Venezuela

- Sra. Jacqueline Faria Pineda, Ministra
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales (MARN)
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, 25° piso, El Silencio
1010-A Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1002 al 1008, 408-1500, 408-4828
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1099, 483-1148
C.E./E-mail: jfaria@marn.gob.ve
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve
- Sr. Ernesto Paiva, Viceministro del Agua
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, Piso 25 - El Silencio
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1010, 408-1013
C.E./E-mail: epaiva@marn.gob.ve
- Sr. Cristóbal Francisco, Presidente, **HIDROVEN**
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Av. Principal de Mari Pérez 9na Transversal
Edificio HIDROVEN, 5o piso
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 781-9813, 709-8410 al 15
- Sr. Alejandro Hitcher, Presidente
Hidrocapital (MARN)
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales Renovables
Av. Augusto Casa Sandino 9, Torre Sur, 25° piso
Transversal Cefecu. Sede de Hidrocapital. Mariel
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 709-8414
Fax: (+ 58-212) 709-8410
C.E./E-mail: alejandrohitcher@hidrocapital.com.ve
- Sra. Lissette Margarita Hernández Márquez, Directora General E
Oficina de Gestión y Cooperación Internacional (MARN)
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, 18° piso, El Silencio
1010-A Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1501, 02
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1503
C.E./E-mail: lhernandez@marn.gob.ve
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve
- Sr. Jesús Ramos, Director General de la Oficina Nacional de
Diversidad Biológica
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, Piso 6, El Silencio
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-4757, 408-4758
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-4756
C.E./E-mail: jramos@marn.gob.ve
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve
- Sr. Manuel V. González D.
Director General de Educación Ambiental y Participación Comu
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, Piso 18, El Silencio
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1515, 408-1516
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1517
C.E./E-mail: mvgonzalez@marn.gob.ve
- Sr. Rodolfo Roa Delgado
Director General de Cuencas Hidrográficas
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, Piso 5
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-2175, 408-2176
C.E./E-mail: rroa@marn.gob.ve
- Sra. Aleidi Beatriz Sangronis Delgado
Directora de Gestión Internacional
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales (MARN)
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, 18° piso, El Silencio
1010-A Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1501/02, 408-1508
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1503
C.E./E-mail: asangroni@marn.gob.ve
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve
- Sra. Ileana Villalobos, Directora de Cooperación Internacional
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, Piso 18
1010-A Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1501, 408-1506
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1503
C.E./E-mail: ivillalobos@marn.gob.ve
- Sra. María Tuñón, Directora de Planificación Comunitaria
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales
Torre Sur de Silencio, piso 18
Caracas, Venezuela
Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1530
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1512
C.E./E-mail: mtunon@marn.gob.ve

Sra. Noris Bañez L, Directora de Educación Ambiental
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales (MARN)
1010-A Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 408-1515
Fax: (+ 58-212) 408-1517
C.E./E-mail: nbanez@marn.gob.ve
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve

Sra. Genoveva Campos, Segundo Secretario
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Carmelitas
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 806-4325, 806-4326
C.E./E-mail: dgsecma@mre.gob.ve

Sra. Ely Vázquez Cordero, Planificador IV
Fundación para el Desarrollo del Servicio Eléctrico (FUNDELEC)
Programa de Energías Renovables y Enlace Comunitario
Torre Sur, PDVSA - Piso 8, FUNDELEC
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 706-6676, 706-6572
Fax: (+ 58-212) 706-6699
C.E./E-mail: elycordero@cantv.net /
optarii@yahoo.es

Sr. Santiago Anconada Rodríguez
Asesor
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los Recursos Naturales (MARN)
Dirección General de Educación Ambiental y Participación Comunitaria
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, piso 18
1010-A
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 714-8426
Fax: (+ 58-212) 210-0620
C.E./E-mail: santiago_arconada@yahoo.es
Sitio Web: www.marn.gob.ve

B. United Nations

I. Agencies

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Sra. Elisa Panadés, Representante
Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO)
Caracas, Venezuela

Sr. Alberto José Berrizbeitia Russian, Asistente de Programa
Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO)
Torre Bellas Artes, 4° piso, Avenida México
Urbanización La Candelaria
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 577-5680, 577-0146
Fax: (+ 58-212) 577-5680, 577-0146
Sitio Web: www.fao.org#http://www.fao.org#

World Health Organization (WHO)

Sr. Marcelo Korc, Asesor Regional
Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)
Sexta Av. Entre Quinta y Sexta Tr. Altamira
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 206-5022
C.E./E-mail: korcm@ven.ops-oms.org

The World Bank (WB)

Mr. Abel Mejía Betancourt, Gerente Sectorial
Banco Mundial
Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe, Unidad de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable
1818 H. Street, N.W.
20433 Washington, D.C., United States of America

Tel.: (+ 1-202) 473-9336
Fax: (+ 1-202) 676-9373
C.E./E-mail: amejia1@worldbank.org
Sitio Web:
www.worldbank.org#http://www.worldbank.org#

Sr. Renam Poveda, Especialista Ambiental
Banco Mundial (BM)
181 H St. NW
23453 Washington, D.C., United States of America

Tel.: (+ 1-202) 473-6136

Sr. Gregor V. Wolf, Rain Forest Unit Manager
Banco Mundial
ESSD - LCSRF

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 329-1000, 329-1015
Fax: (+ 55-61) 329-1012

Sector Comercial Norte, Quadra 02, Lote A, Edif. Corporate
Financial Centre, Conjuntos 204, 303, 304
70712900 Brasilia, D.F., Brazil

Sra. Carolina Urrutia Vásquez
Junior Professional Associate

Banco Mundial
Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C., Estados Unidos de América

Tel.: (+ 1-202) 473-6136
Fax: (+ 1-202) 676-9373
C.E./E-mail: currutiavasquez@worldbank.org

II. Programmes and Commissions

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Sr. Rafael Sánchez
**Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Comercio y
Desarrollo (UNCTAD)**
Iniciativa Bio Trade
Palais des Nations
CH-1222
Ginebra, Suiza

Tel.: (+ 41-22) 917-5620
Fax: (+ 41-22) 917-0044
C.E./E-mail: rafael.sanchez@unctad.org

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Sr. David McLachlan-Karr, Representante Residente
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
Avenida Francisco de Miranda
Torre Hewlett-Packard (HP)
Piso 6, Oficina 6-A
Urbanización Los Palos Grandes
Caracas, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-212) 208-4444
Fax: (+ 58-212) 263-8179
C.E./E-mail: pnud.ven@undp.org /
[Sitio Web: www.ybdo.ig/spanish/](http://www.ybdo.ig/spanish/)

Sra. Leida Mercado
Asesora en Economía Ambiental para ALC
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
BDP - SURF
Casa de las Naciones Unidas No. 155
Ciudad del Saber, Clayton
Apdo. 6314, Zona 5, Panamá
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 302-4556, 302-4500
Fax: (+ 507) 302-4551
C.E./E-mail: leida.mercado@undp.org
[Sitio Web: www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

Sra. Maribel Rodríguez-Ríos
Especialista del Programa Medio Ambiente
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
Buro Regional América Latina y el Caribe
One United Nations Plaza
10017 Nueva York, Estados Unidos de América

Tel.: (+ 1-212) 906-5431
C.E./E-mail: maribel.rodriguez@undp.org
[Sitio Web: www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

Sra. Lilia Gil, Oficial de Programa
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
Caracas, Venezuela

[Sitio Web: www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Mr. Nelson Andrade Colmenares, Coordinator
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Unidad de Coordinación Regional del Programa Ambiental del
Caribe (OCR/PAC)
14-20 Port Royal Street
Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) 922-9267 to 69
Fax: (+ 1-876) 922-9292
C.E./E-mail: uneprcuja@cwjamaica.com
[Sitio Web: www.cep.unep.org](http://www.cep.unep.org)

Mr. Christopher Corbin, Programme Officer
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
14-20 Port Royal St.
Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) 922-9267
Fax: (+ 1-876) 922-9292
C.E./E-mail: ccorbin@planning.gov.lc

Sra. Isabel Martínez, Oficial de Programa
Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Programa de Acción Mundial para la Protección del Medio
Marino frente a las actividades realizadas en tierra (PAM)
Kortenaerkade No. 1
2518 EX, P.O. Box 16227, 2500 BE Tha Hague, The
La Haya, Países Bajos

Tel.: (+ 31-70) 311-4470, 311-4460
Fax: (+ 31-70) 345-6648
C.E./E-mail: i.martinez@unep.nl
[Sitio Web: www.gpa.unep.org](http://www.gpa.unep.org)

Economic Comisión for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Sr. José Luis Samaniego, Director
**División de Desarrollo Sostenible y Asentamientos
Humanos (CEPAL)**
Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe
Santiago, Chile

Tel.: (+ 56-2) 210-2000, 210-2293
Fax: (+ 56-2) 208-0252, 208-0484
C.E./E-mail: joseluis.samaniego@cepal.org
[Sitio Web: www.eclac.cl](http://www.eclac.cl)

Sr. Guillermo Acuña, Asistente Legal
**División de Desarrollo Sostenible y Asentamientos
Humanos (CEPAL)**
Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe
Casilla 179 - D
Santiago, Chile

Tel.: (+ 56-2) 210-2488, 210-2295
Fax: (+ 56-2) 208-0252, 208-0484
C.E./E-mail: guillermo.acuna@cepal.org
[Sitio Web: www.cepal.org/ddisah](http://www.cepal.org/ddisah)

Sr. Hugo Guzmán Sandoval, Asesor
**Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe
(CEPAL)**
Oficina de la Secretaría Ejecutiva Adjunta
Av. Dag Hammarskjöld s/n, Vitacura
Casilla 179-D, Santiago, Chile
Santiago, Chile

Tel.: (+ 56-2) 210-2284, 210-2000
Fax: (+ 56-2) 208-5034
C.E./E-mail: hugo.guzman@cepal.org
[Sitio Web: www.eclac.org](http://www.eclac.org)

III. Secretariats and Conventions

Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático (UNFCCC)

Mr. Roberto Acosta Moreno, Gerente
Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio
Climático (UNFCCC)
Martin-Luther-King-Strasse No. 8
Martin-Luther-King-Strasse No. 8
D-53175 Bonn, Germany

Tel.: (+ 49-228) 815-1419
Fax: (+ 49-228) 815-1999
C.E./E-mail: racosta@unfccc.int
[Sitio Web: www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)

Secretariado del Fondo Multilateral para la Implementación del Protocolo de Montreal

Ms. Maria Nolan, Chief Officer
**Secretariado del Fondo Multilateral para la
Implementación del Protocolo de Montreal (SFM)**
1800 McGill College Avenue, 27th Floor
H3A 3J6 Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Tel.: (+ 1-514) 282-1122
Fax: (+ 1-514) 282-0068
C.E./E-mail: mleyva@unmfs.org

C. Inter-Governmental Organizations /

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

Mr. Ricardo Quiroga, Environmental Economist
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)
División de Medio Ambiente
1300 New York Avenue, N.W.
20577 Washington, D.C., United States of America

Tel.: (+ 1-202) 623-3159
Fax: (+ 1-202) 623-1786
C.E./E-mail: ricardoq@iadb.org
[Sitio Web: www.iadb.org](http://www.iadb.org)

Sr. Alberto Jose Palombo Vergara,
Asesor General - PNRH Brasil
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)
PCT BID-Brasil/MMA/SRH, A/C Secretaria de Recursos
SGAN 601- Lote I - ED. CODEVASF - Sala 406
70830-901 Brasilia, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 4009-1300, 9232-0696
Fax: (+ 55-61) 3224-2010
C.E./E-mail: alberto.palombo@mma.gov.br
[Sitio Web: www.pnrh.cnrh-srh.gov.br](http://www.pnrh.cnrh-srh.gov.br)

Sr. David Wilk, Senior Urban Environmental Specialist
Environment Division
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)
1300 New York Ave., N. W.
20577 Washington, D.C., United States of America

Tel.: (+ 1-202) 623-1843
Fax: (+ 1-202) 623-1786
C.E./E-mail: davidw@iadb.org

Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)

Mr. Garfield Barnwell, Director, Sustainable Development
Caribbean Community
Turkeyen
P.O. Box 10827
Georgetown, Guyana

Tel.: (+ 592-2) 22-0001/ 75
Fax: (+ 592-2) 27-4537
C.E./E-mail: ggarfieldb@aol.com

Ms. Anya Thomas, Senior Project Officer, Sustainable
Development
Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM)
Avenue of the Republics and Church Street
Turkeyen Greater
P.O. Box No. 10827
Georgetown, Guyana

Tel.: (+ 592-2) 22-0001 Ext. 2625
Fax: (+ 592-2) 22-0155
C.E./E-mail: anya@caricom.org
[Sitio Web: www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org)

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

Mr. Compton Bourne, O.E., President
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
Willey, St. Michael
P.O. Box No. 408
Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 431-1600
Fax: (+ 1-246) 426-7269
C.E./E-mail: info@caribank.org

Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe (CATHALAC)

Sr. Emilio Sempris, Director
Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América
Ciudad del Saber, Clayton, Edificio 801
Panamá, Panamá

Tel.: (+ 507) 317-1640/41/42, 317-0053/57
Fax: (+ 507) 317-0127
C.E./E-mail: emilio.sempris@cathalac.org
[Sitio Web: www.cathalac.org](http://www.cathalac.org)

Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD)

Sr. Marco Antonio González Pastora
Secretario Ejecutivo CCAD y Dir. Gral. De M.A. del SICA
Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo
Sistema de Integración Centroamericana
Boulevard Orden de Malta No. 470
Urbanización Santa Elena, Antiguo Cuscatlán, La Libertad
San Salvador, El Salvador

Tel.: (+ 503) 2289-1681, 2248-8800, 2278-
1050
Fax: (+ 503) 2248-8894
C.E./E-mail: magonzalez@sgsica.org
[Sitio Web: www.ccad.ws](http://www.ccad.ws)

Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS)

Sr. Gonzalo Pereira Puchy
Secretario General
Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS)
Av. Carlos Julio Arosemena, Km 3, Edificio Inmarnal, Primer Piso
Guayaquil, Ecuador

Tel.: (+ 593-4) 222-1202 / 03
Fax: (+ 593-4) 222-1201
C.E./E-mail: subsecre@cpps-int.org
[Sitio Web: www.cpps-int.org](http://www.cpps-int.org)

Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (OTCA)

Sra. Rosalía Artega
Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica
Brasília, D.F., Brasil

Sr. Francisco Ruíz Marmolejo
Director Ejecutivo
Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica
Brasília, D.F., Brasil

Parlamento Latinoamericano y (PARLATINO)

Sr. Walter Gavidia Rodríguez, Vicepresidente
Parlamento Latinoamericano (PARLATINO)
Presidente del Grupo Parlamentario Venezolano, Parlamento
Av. Auro Soares de Moura Andrade No. 584
CEP 01156-001
Sao Paulo, Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-11) 3824-6113, 3824-6114
Fax: (+ 55-11) 3824-0619
C.E./E-mail: presidencia@parlatino.org

Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN)

Sr. Héctor Maldonado Lira, Director General
Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN)
Paseo de la República No. 3895
Esq. Aramburu, San Isidro
27, Casilla Postal 18-1177, Lima 18, Perú
Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) (+51-1) 411-1436
Fax: (+ 51-1) (+51-1) 221-3329
C.E./E-mail:
hmaldonado@comunidadandina.org

Sra. Luisa Elena Guinand, Coordinadora Medio Ambiente
Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN)
Paseo de la República No. 3895
Esq. Aramburu, San Isidro
27, Casilla Postal 18-1177, Lima 18
Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) (+51-1) 411-1400
Fax: (+ 51-1) (+51-1) 221-3329
C.E./E-mail: lguinand@comunidadandina.org

Sra. Mariela Canepa Montalvo, Gerente
Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN)
Paseo de la República No. 3895
Cuadra 18 s/n, San Isidro 12
Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) 411-1400 Ext. 1241
C.E./E-mail: mcanepa@comunidadandina.org
[Sitio Web: www.comunidadandina.org](http://www.comunidadandina.org)

Sr. Alana Viale, Gerente de Proyecto
Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN)
Av. Paseo de la República No. 3895
18 Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) 411-1400
Fax: (+ 51-1) 221-3329
C.E./E-mail: aviale@comunidadandina.org

D. Non-Governmental Organizations

Associação de Combate aos POPs (ACPO)

Sra. Karen Suassuna
Coordenador de Políticas de Segurança Química
Associação de Combate aos POPs (ACPO)
Rua Juliode Mesquita o. 148 cj03
Sao Paulo, Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-11) 3234-6679
Fax: (+ 55-11) 3234-6679
C.E./E-mail: ksuassuna@yahoo.com.br

Caribbean NGO Policy Development Centre (CPDC)

Mr. Gordon Bispham, Board Member - SIDS Expert
Caribbean NGO Policy Development Centre (CPDC)
"Halsworth", Welches Road, St. Michael
P.O. Box 284
Bridgetown, Barbados

Tel.: (+ 1-246) 437-6055/56
C.E./E-mail: cpdc@caribnet.org
[Sitio Web: www.cpd.ngo.org](http://www.cpd.ngo.org)

Foro Brasileño de ONG's y Movimientos Sociales para Desarrollo y Medio Ambiente

Sra. Esther Neuhaus, Gerente Ejecutivo
Foro Brasileño de ONG's y Movimientos Sociales para Desarrollo y Medio Ambiente (FBOMS)
Brasília, D.F., Brasil

Tel.: (+ 55-61) 3033-5545
Fax: (+ 55-61) 3033-5535
C.E./E-mail: estherneuhaus@uol.com.br
[Sitio Web: www.fboms.org.br](http://www.fboms.org.br)

Foro Ecológico del Perú (FEP)

Sr. Felix Sandro Chávez Vásquez
Coordinador Nacional
Foro Ecológico del Perú (FEP)
Manuel Gómez No. 634, Lince
14 Lima, Perú

Tel.: (+ 51-1) 266-0245
Fax: (+ 51-1) 265-1950
C.E./E-mail: sandroch@foroecologico.org
[Sitio Web: www.foroecologico.org](http://www.foroecologico.org)

Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre (FANJ)

Sr. Ángel Graña González, Coordinador General
Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre
5ta. No. 6611 e/66 y 70, Miramar
11600 La Habana, Cuba

Tel.: (+ 53-7) 209-2885, 209-2833, 209-2887
Fax: (+ 53-7) 204-2985
C.E./E-mail: angel@fanj.cult.cu

Misión Rescate: Planeta Tierra, México A.C.

Sra. Ana Lorena Gudiño Valdez, Coordinadora Nacional
GEO Juvenil México
Misión Rescate: Planeta Tierra, México A.C.
Kumamoto No. 8
Col. Guadalupe, Tlalpan
14388 México, D.F., México

Tel.: (+ 52-55) 5673-0431, 1473-5749
C.E./E-mail: lorena.gudino@gmail.com

Unión Nacional de Ecología Social

Sr. José Manuel Hurtado, Coordinador de Proyecto
Unión Nacional de Ecología Social
Urb. La Compañía 1, calle 2 No. 22, Naguanagua, Edo.
Valencia, Venezuela

Tel.: (+ 58-6) 868-2714 / 808-5110
Fax: (+ 58-6) 868-2714
C.E./E-mail: eoosferac@yahoo.com

E. Special Guests

Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander Von Humboldt

Sr. Fernando Gast Harders, Director General
Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt
Carrera 7a. No. 35-20
Bogotá, D.C., Colombia

Tel.: (+ 57-1) 607-6500
Fax: (+ 57-1) 608-6900 al 02
C.E./E-mail: dirgeneral@humboldt.org.co /
[Sitio Web: www.humboldt.org.co](http://www.humboldt.org.co)

Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica

Ms. Ruth Potopsingh, Deputy Group Managing Director
Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica
36 Trafalgar Road
10 Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) 929-5380/9
Fax: (+ 1-876) 929-2409
C.E./E-mail: ruth.potopsingh@pcj.com
[Sitio Web: www.pcj.com](http://www.pcj.com)

Mr. Raymond W. Wright, Group Managing Director
Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica
36 Trafalgar Road
Kingston, Jamaica

Tel.: (+ 1-876) (+1-876) 292-5380
Fax: (+ 1-876) (+1-876)
C.E./E-mail: raymond.wright@pcj.com

United Nations Environment Programme UNEP Riso Centre (URC)

Mr. Jorge Rogat
Senior Economist
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Energy Climate and Sustainable Development, Riso National
DK-4000 Roskilde
P.O. Box 49
Copenhagen, Denmark

Tel.: (+ 45) 4677-5133
Fax: (+ 45) 4632-1999
C.E./E-mail: jorge.rogat@risoe.dk

The Cropper Foundation

Ms. Angela Cropper, President
The Cropper Foundation
Building No. 7, Fernandes Industrial Centre, Laventill
Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Tel.: (+ 1-868) 626-2628
Fax: (+ 1-868) 626-2564
C.E./E-mail:
acropper@thecropperfoundation.org /
[Sitio Web: www.thecropperfoundation.org](http://www.thecropperfoundation.org)

