



Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente  
Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe  
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME  
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

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**Eighteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of  
Environment of Latin American and the Caribbean**

**Quito, Ecuador  
31 January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2012**

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A. PREPARATORY MEETING OF HIGH-LEVEL EXPERTS

31 January to 3rd February, 2012

# **Conclusions and Recommendations of the Sixth Meeting of the Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production from Latin America and the Caribbean**

**Regional meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production and its  
contribution to Resource Efficiency  
6th Meeting of the Regional Council of SCP Government Experts  
24 and 25 November 2011, Panama City, Panama**

The Drafting Committee consisted of María José Castañeda (Chile), Carlos Ramírez (Colombia), Irma Suárez (Ecuador), Sylvia Treviño (México), Zacarías Navarro (República Dominicana), Adriana Zacarías and Elisa Tonda (United Nations Environment Programme). The recommendations in this document were discussed and approved in plenary by all the delegates of the countries participating in the meeting.

Considering the call of Agenda 21 for action to change unsustainable patterns of consumption and production;

Recognizing that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 identified Sustainable Consumption and Production as an overarching objective of an essential requirement for sustainable development; and called on all stakeholders to *"Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems"*;

Considering the sustainable consumption and production plans and programmes promoted by the countries of the region to achieve progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals and the implementation of Agenda 21;

Considering that sustainable consumption and production is an important tool for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and to contribute to the reduction of desertification and the conservation of biodiversity;

Recognizing the high potential and leadership that the countries of the region have in adopting more sustainable consumption and production patterns, the work of the Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in Latin America and the Caribbean as an instance to come to agreement, and to exchange experiences and information on the subject, the results of the previous Regional Meetings of Experts on SCP, and the Decisions on SCP adopted by the Forum of Ministers in its various sessions;

Recalling that the priority areas identified by the Forum of Ministers in its Decision 5/2010 to focus efforts on common SCP issues in the region are: 1) policies and national action plans on SCP, 2) SCP implementation in Small and Medium Enterprises, 3) sustainable public procurement, 4) sustainable lifestyles;

Recognizing the efforts from the United Nations Environment Programme, together with the CAF - Development Bank for Latin America, which, following up in the process of implementation of the Regional SCP Strategy and

encouraging the continued discussion on the 10 Years Framework of Programmes on SCP, conducted the Sixth Meeting of Government Experts on SCP in Latin America and the Caribbean, "Regional Meeting on Sustainable Consumption and Production and its contribution to Resource Efficiency" in Panama City, Panama, 24 25 November 2011;

Recognizing the significant participation and valuable contributions made at the Sixth Meeting of Government Experts on SCP by representatives of various Governmental institutions, Sub-regional Organizations, Non Governmental Organizations, the Cleaner Production Centres, academia, business sector, experts in the field, and cooperation agencies and from the United Nations System:

***THE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION FROM LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, IN ITS SIXTH MEETING, RECOMMENDS TO THE FORUM OF MINISTERS OF THE ENVIRONMENT THE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:***

- 1.** To promote the adoption of the 10 Years Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).
- 2.** To reaffirm the four priorities, that are common to the countries in the region, recognizing the significant progress achieved in the implementation of activities in each one of them and, at the same time, highlighting the need of additional support to implement, replicate and disseminate successful experiences at national and regional level.
- 3.** To mainstream SCP objectives into the design and implementation of State policies.
- 4.** To integrate, in national development plans, actions that promote and strengthen SCP.
- 5.** To urge inclusive participation of the different social sectors in the formulation, capacity building and implementation of SCP policies, action plans or strategies and foster SCP strategies in all development sectors, according to the national priorities of each country in the region.
- 6.** To guarantee the allocation of national resources, in addition to external financial support, for SCP implementation.
- 7.** To internalize social and environmental costs and opportunities in the formulation of public policies.
- 8.** To take advantage of local and national capacities and potential to generate regional synergy with the objective of achieving greater opportunities of supply and demand of sustainable goods and services which contribute to the promotion of SCP patterns.
- 9.** To promote the life cycle approach as an instrument to build sustainability criteria, as well as transparent information in regards to sustainability attributes and characteristics.

**10.** To support the acceleration of research, innovation and technological development, with the intention of increasing resource efficiency.

**11.** To ask for the ratification of the Executive Committee members for the 2011 – 2013 period, as indicated below:

- a. Representative Caribbean sub-region:
  - i. Representative: St. Lucia
  - ii. Alternate: Jamaica
- b. Representative of the Mesoamerican sub-region:
  - i. Representative: Costa Rica
  - ii. Alternate: Cuba
- c. Representative of the Andean sub-region<sup>1</sup>:
  - i. Representative: Ecuador
  - ii. Alternate: Colombia
- d. Representative of the Southern Cone sub-region:
  - i. Representative: Argentina
  - ii. Alternate: Chile

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<sup>1</sup> Pending for confirmation until 15 January 2012.