

### **Decision 3.**

## **PRINCIPLE 10 OF THE RIO DECLARATION**

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**Taking into account** paragraph 99 of the document The Future We Want, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and approved by the United Nations General Assembly in its Res 66/288 of 27 July 2012, that encourages action at regional, national, subnational and local level, to promote access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice in environmental matters, as appropriate;

**Recalling** that the UNEP Governing Council adopted in February 2010, the Voluntary Guidelines for the development of national legislation on access to information, public participation in decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Bali Guidelines);

**Recalling** Decision 27/2 of the UNEP Governing Council, with regard to the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, particularly those from developing countries, drawing on best practices and models from relevant multilateral institutions, and the need to explore new mechanisms to promote transparency and the effective engagement of civil society in its work and its subsidiary bodies;

**Taking note of** the Declaration on the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by several countries in the region during the Rio +20 Conference, which launched a regional process that records significant progress and has a growing number of signatory countries, aimed at strengthening dialogue and regional cooperation and at building a regional instrument on the rights of access to information, participation and justice;

**Appreciating** the efficient work done by ECLAC as the Technical Secretariat of the regional Declaration process and the valuable support and active involvement of UNEP, UNITAR and other institutions with a presence in our region;

**Noting** the progress being made at the national level to strengthen the rights of access, and the challenges to its implementation as well as the particular conditions of each country;

**Emphasizing** that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative procedures are essential to promote sustainable development.

### **Decide**

- 1. To reaffirm** the commitment to work towards achieving full implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.
- 2. To recognize** the progress achieved in the process of the Declaration on the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and encourage its consolidation as inclusive and participatory regional setting to build a common vision and to strengthen national capacities.
- 3. To continue** efforts to strengthen regional dialogue and cooperation, technical assistance and capacity building in support of the construction and implementation of its own regional agenda on the rights of access, considering the advances, tools, experiences and practices in place since the adoption of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.