**XX Meeting of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean**

28-31 March 2016, Cartagena, Colombia

**Decision 6. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)**

**The Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean,**

**Considering** the commitments made in the Agenda 21 at the Earth Summit in 1992; in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002; and in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20) in 2012, where member states reaffirmed that changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production is one of the three overarching objectives and essential requirements for sustainable development;

**Recalling** that the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) adopted in paragraph 226 of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012 will contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development, that its programmes should respond to national, sub-regional and regional needs and priorities, as well as take into account the different approaches, visions, models and instruments according to the national circumstances of each country;

**Recalling** that which is stated at the General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of September 2015, *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and affirming the commitment of the international community towards achieving the objectives and targets set in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also recognising that the issue of sustainable patterns of consumption and production is a crosscutting theme in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which not only contributes to achieving the SDG number 12 and its associated targets but also to the advancement of other SDG and related targets;

**Emphasising** that it is stated at the General Assembly Resolution 69/313 of July 2015, *Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development* "to continue to support developing countries to strengthen their scientific, technological and innovative capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, including through implementation of the 10YFP";

**Bearing in mind** that the adoption of sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, with developed country Parties taking the lead, plays an important role in addressing climate change;

**Recalling** that sustainable consumption and production is an important approach to prevent and adapt to the effects of desertification and drought, and to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity, and other global and regional environmental priorities;

**Taking into consideration** that strengthening the sustainability performance of SMEs is one of the four regional priorities, according to Decisions Nº 5 and 6 in 2010 and 2012 respectively of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment, which recognise and take into account that in the LAC region, SMEs are an important source for economic growth and employment and the base of supply chains, therefore it is necessary to support them in their integration in the global value chains;

**Recognising** the exponential urban development of the region, where 80% of the population lives in cities, and identifying the critical contribution of cities in the use of natural resources, emissions and waste generation and in the lifestyles of its inhabitants; as well as the context of the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) to be held in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016;

**Recalling** the Declaration of Lima of the VII Ibero-American Congress on Environmental Education held in September 2014 in Peru, urging people and governments of Ibero-America and around the world to take and fulfil specific commitments to develop and implement environmental education policies that generate equitable and inclusive social realities, new modes of behaviour, consumption and production to enable sustainable lifestyles both at the local and global levels;

**Recalling** the launch of the “SCP for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Initiative within the 10YFP” in the framework of the Third International Conference of Small Island Developing States held in Samoa during September 2014;

**Taking into account** the progress made regarding the implementation of: i) the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production and its roadmap (2015-2016); ii) Decision 7 on Sustainable Consumption and Production of the XIX Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean; and iii) the proposals for action to the 10YFP Secretariat and the 10YFP Board, elaborated during the *Eighth Meeting of the Regional Council of Government Experts on Sustainable Consumption and Production of Latin America and the Caribbean*, which took place in Panama from 4th to 5th May 2015;

**Recognising** the progress that the countries of the Latin American and the Caribbean region have made in adopting and implementing policies, programmes and initiatives to promote more sustainable consumption and production patterns;

**Decide to**

1. **Reiterate** the commitment of the Latin America and the Caribbean region to support the implementation of the Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP) and to maintain an active role in its promotion.
2. **Invite** countries of our region to use the 10YFP as one of the mechanisms to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), including not only the SDG 12 but also other goals and objectives to which the implementation of SCP contributes significantly.
3. **Invite** countries to work towards the implementation of the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production and its roadmap (2015-2016), as appropriate; both documents framed within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aligned to the achievement of the SDGs.
4. **Reiterate** its support to strengthen the 10YFP National Focal Points and the 10YFP Stakeholder Focal Points. This includes: i) to provide the highest political support to the 10YFP National Focal Points to facilitate their role and functions as national coordinators of SCP; ii) to facilitate and strengthen the active participation of the nine Major Groups in the promotion of SCP practices and the implementation of the 10YFP programmes at regional, national and local levels; iii) to facilitate inter-ministerial and inter-sectoral dialogues and cooperation among multiple stakeholders, integrating SCP in key sectors and with an active participation of private sector.
5. **Integrate** as a crosscutting element in all of the 10YFP programmes, the need to assist the small and medium enterprises (SMEs), supporting them in strengthening their sustainability performance and eco-innovation; and continue to consider the possibility of the creation of a specific programme on PYMEs within the 10YFP.
6. **Promote** integrated waste management as a new programme of the 10YFP, in order for each country to define its priorities and strategies according to its own policies; and to promote the prevention, reuse, recycling and valorisation of waste, among others, tending towards lower final disposal. This taking into consideration potential synergies with the regional network on chemicals and waste that is currently being developed under the framework of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean.
7. **Replicate and scale up** the best practices on sustainable public procurement, which helps governments to lead by example in the adoption of sustainable consumption and production, and also provides added value as well as social, environmental and economic benefits.
8. **Strengthen** the inclusion of sustainable consumption and production approaches in the regional and national climate change strategies and initiatives, which contributes significantly to mitigation and adaptation.
9. **Invite** all the countries in the region to use the available scientific knowledge on efficient management of natural resources and reduction of environmental degradation, on integrated and sustainable development; respecting the regeneration capacity of life-systems; and on consumption and production patterns; which could assist in the formulation of science based-public policies and decision-making. This including, among others, the specific expertise of the International Resource Panel in this field.
10. **Articulate** environmental education and training processes in the development of policies and technical and operative tools to achieve sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the allocation of adequate financial resources and evaluation instruments.
11. **Strengthen** efforts aimed at improving resource efficiency in cities in order to minimise their environmental and social impacts and to build cities with more sustainable and inclusive lifestyles in the region, contributing at the same time to the objectives of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) to be held in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016.
12. **Strengthen** the protection of biodiversity through SCP policies and practices, thereby contributing as well to the Aichi target number 4 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the COP 13 on Biodiversity.
13. **Continue** to support sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with the 10YFP and with the implementation of the Regional Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production and its roadmap (2015-2016); asking for more support to countries in the region and the international cooperation to promote the "SCP for SIDS Initiative".
14. **Facilitate and strengthen**, according to national legislation,the active participation of the productive and service sectors, both SMEs and large enterprises, in the implementation of practices of sustainable consumption and production, which implies creating access to new market opportunities, innovation and environmental sustainability, among others.
15. **Urge** international cooperation, private sector, financial sector and countries, to provide technical assistance and funding for initiatives involving implementation of SCP in the region, including those which have as an objective the transfer and dissemination of technology, capacity building and innovation in the context of equity and common and differentiated responsibilities. Also, to invite countries and other relevant actors to promote mechanisms for South-South cooperation.
16. **Promote** the inclusion of issues associated with SCP as well as the analysis of possible synergies with other political forums or relevant intergovernmental organisations in the region and sub-regions.
17. **Continue** to work on the development and harmonisation of SCP indicators as appropriate, in response to Decision 6 of the Regional Forum of Ministers of Environment (Quito, 2012) and coordinate this task with existing initiatives in the region while seeking synergies, especially within the context of monitoring the agenda of Rio+20 and the Sustainable Development Goals.
18. **Ratify** Executive Committee members for the 2016-2018 period, as indicated below:
* Caribbean sub-region: Barbados and Jamaica
* Mesoamerican sub-region: Mexico and Costa Rica/Honduras (sharing seat, Costa Rica for the first year and Honduras for the second);
* The Andean sub-region: Bolivia and Colombia;
* The Southern Cone sub-region: Argentina and Brazil.