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**REPORT OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE  
OF THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION,  
PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Panama City, 27-29 October 2015

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## **A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

### **Place and date of the meeting**

1. The second meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Panama City from 27 to 29 October 2015.
2. The meeting was organized jointly by the Government of Panama and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in its capacity as technical secretariat of the regional process relating to the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.<sup>1</sup>

### **Attendance<sup>2</sup>**

3. The meeting was attended by representatives of 19 out of the 20 signatory countries of the Declaration: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Uruguay.
4. Also attending were international experts in access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters, elected representatives of the public and members of the public, in accordance with the Santiago Decision and the organization and work plan of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) were also in attendance.
6. The meeting was open-ended and webcasted.

### **Chair**

7. Panama chaired the meeting in its capacity as host country.

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<sup>1</sup> See A/CONF.216/13.

<sup>2</sup> See the list of participants in annex 2.

### **Adoption of the agenda**

8. The following agenda was adopted, with a modification to the order of items 2 and 3 in respect of the provisional agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Actions taken at the national level by the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and activities carried out by the secretariat.
3. Adoption of modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee.
4. Negotiation of the regional agreement on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Other matters.

## **B. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS**

### **Opening session**

9. At the opening session, a message was projected from Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC, and statements were made by Joseluis Samaniego, Chief of the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, Max López, Director General of International Organizations and Conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama, Sonia Montenegro and Danielle Andrade, representatives of the public, and Mirei Endara, Minister of the Environment of Panama.

10. The Executive Secretary of ECLAC began her message by referring to the strong support expressed by the 15 independent experts of the Human Rights Council for the efforts made by the Latin American and Caribbean countries to reach a regional agreement on access rights. She said that good governance demanded inclusion, transparency and accountability, which in turn required the full participation of society in public management. Rights of access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters were the cornerstone of society and vital for the protection of the environment. She highlighted how governments and societies had worked together to blaze a singular, common trail that was opening up new chapters in multilateralism. Rather than being merely deliberative, the future instrument should be ambitious and set out clear and effective obligations in order to fully guarantee access rights. The eyes of the world were on Latin America and the Caribbean and she called for such a unique opportunity not to be wasted.

11. The Chief of the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division of ECLAC recalled the agreements reached at the first meeting of the negotiating committee. He stressed that the process was a regional initiative within the framework of South-South cooperation and was fundamental to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The process introduced an element of governance into globalization and, through policy harmonization and public participation, enabled the reconciliation of growth with environmental protection. He maintained that it was a participatory initiative that would benefit the population as a whole and strengthen the public sector as progress was made towards sustainable development.

12. The Director General of International Organizations and Conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama commended ECLAC for its support in upholding the commitment made at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to build a regional agreement on access rights. He stressed the importance of information, participation and justice to achieving environmental protection and sustainable development, and highlighted some examples of the progress made in his country in that area, such as the adoption of the Transparency and Access to Information Act and open government policies. He closed by expressing the hope that the negotiation process would result swiftly in a regional agreement with the highest international standards that would serve to strengthen democratic institutions, freedom of expression and other human rights.

13. After thanking the organizers, the representatives of the public urged the participants not to waste the opportunity presented by the process to create a better future. The effective implementation of access rights would allow the region to transform the paradigm upon which sustainable development was being built since the democratic dialogue process was grounded in access to information, participation and environmental justice. A binding instrument on the matter would help the region progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The process had already contributed to building the capacities of the State and civil society in the region and they reiterated the strong commitment of the public to the regional process, as well as its support of the countries.

14. The Minister of the Environment of Panama affirmed her country's commitment to Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and the regional process. The creation of the Ministry of the Environment was tangible evidence of the priority that her country gave to environmental protection. The new regulations and institutions granted renewed and better opportunities to promote environmental governance at different levels. She reiterated Panama's aspiration to achieve a binding regional agreement and called upon all the delegations to work collaboratively and efficiently to progress in the substantive aspects of the negotiation and conclude the meeting with concrete results.

Actions taken at the national level by the signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and activities carried out by the secretariat (agenda item 2)

15. The signatory countries of the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration spoke on the actions taken at the national level in the framework of the regional process, consisting of consultations, meetings and workshops with various governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, as well as dissemination and awareness-raising activities. Statements were made by the following delegations:<sup>3</sup> Jamaica, Honduras, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Panama, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Peru, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador and the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

16. The representative of Jamaica reported that her government had established a working group on Principle 10 to work with civil society on defining a national position and had carried out a consultation and dissemination activities at the national level on the preliminary document and the negotiation process.

17. The representative of Honduras highlighted the collaborative work being carried out with civil society and within the government sector, as well as with the Supreme Court of Justice and the Public Prosecutor's Office.

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<sup>3</sup> Listed in speaking order.

18. The representative of Chile said that a public consultation, meetings and workshops had been held in the capital and in the regions to discuss the negotiation process, the preliminary document and the proposed modalities for participation of the public. Furthermore, she reported that the advisory councils on the environment and the citizen participation committees from different services had been involved in those activities and that the process had been discussed in several binational meetings with Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador.

19. The representative of Costa Rica said that transparency, accountability, the right to participate and open government policies formed one of the pillars of her government. She also reported that Principle 10 had been discussed at the ministerial meetings of the Central American Integration System (SICA).

20. The representative of the Dominican Republic indicated that a national consultation had been held with more than 100 institutions, the results of which would be made available in due course.

21. The representative of Uruguay said that his country favoured a binding agreement and mentioned some of the national provisions on access rights, such as the decree of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the dialogue and public consultation system. He emphasized the constructive cooperation with civil society, which was reflected in the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in June 2015, and in the preparation of other meetings on climate change.

22. The representative of Panama detailed the activities carried out since the first meeting of the negotiating committee, which included four opportunities for consultation on the preliminary document and the proposed modalities for participation of the public with representatives of the three branches of government and civil society.

23. The representative of Antigua and Barbuda reported that her country was making efforts to raise awareness about the process among the population. The activities and national consultations carried out included the review of relevant provisions of domestic legislation on the environment and on access to information. A presentation had been given on the process at the meeting of OECS environment ministers held in September 2015.

24. The representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines highlighted the adoption of a rights-based approach to sustainable development and the different discussions and meetings held nationally with human rights organizations. She reaffirmed her commitment to environmental democracy and to the negotiation of a binding agreement.

25. The representative of Peru said that seminars and talks had been organized to report on the regional process and that multisectoral workshops had been held in Lima and elsewhere on the pillars of Principle 10. The national open government plan was closely linked to access rights and he was confident that the regional process would conclude with a legally binding regional agreement.

26. The representative of Brazil outlined the significant progress that had been made in national coordination, including the involvement of 12 ministries in the discussions, the organization of two face-to-face meetings, the provision of opportunities for the private sector and civil society to participate, an online consultation on the preliminary document and an unofficial translation of the document to Portuguese. However, his country was still at the stage of holding internal discussions and, although he would follow the discussions with interest, participate in the drafting of the text and not oppose any emerging consensus, he reserved the right to edit or modify any outcome from the meeting in future stages of the negotiation process.

27. The representative of Mexico stated that he had been assessing the scope and purpose of the process. Since May, three working meetings had been held with national ministries and institutions, as well as a workshop on consultation processes for sectoral projects. Consultations had been conducted with civil society and advisory councils on sustainable development. He added that consultations with the judiciary were also pending.

28. The representative of Argentina said that a national consultation process was under way, two coordination and working meetings had been held and that the number and diversity of participants had increased and included representatives from the provinces through the Federal Council for the Environment. She called for the process to be linked with other global processes that were setting the environmental agenda.

29. The representative of Guatemala said that the actions taken in her country included the dissemination of the preliminary document, which had been circulated widely to government institutions and the judiciary.

30. The representative of Colombia reported on the creation of the national public mechanism and other mechanisms for public dissemination, such as information channels.

31. The representative of El Salvador drew attention to the recent creation of the National Council for Environmental Sustainability and Vulnerability, which would hold a wider citizen consultation on the preliminary document. Consultations were also being held with the Department of Citizen Participation, Transparency and Anti-Corruption.

32. The representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia said that appropriate channels for consultation were being established, but that extensive legislation on access rights was already in effect, such as the Participation and Social Oversight Act, the Executive Branch Transparency Act and the Ministry of Institutional Transparency and the Fight against Corruption.

33. The representative of ECLAC gave an account of the technical secretariat's activities since the first meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in May 2015. Aside from the secretarial work and organization of meetings, the tasks had centred on capacity-building, technical assistance and support in disseminating information on the process. He mentioned the progress made with regard to the regional public mechanism and support for public participation.

34. The representatives of the public spoke on the actions taken by the region's public within the framework of the process, including participation in national consultations and submission of inputs for the preliminary document. The activities mentioned were carried out in Antigua and Barbuda, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Peru and Saint Lucia. They commended all of the countries that had held national consultations, especially Chile and Peru, and those that had expressed support for a binding regional agreement. Lastly, they read a letter signed by 12 Latin American and Caribbean youth organizations in which the representatives of governments were urged to show their commitment to their country's children and young people and to adopt a solid agreement, with clear and enforceable binding obligations that would provide the legal tools needed to enforce access rights and strengthen the capacities of governments and civil society.

35. The Judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice said that the preliminary document prepared by ECLAC and the future regional agreement were vital for the Caribbean and for judicial authorities, such as the court that he represented. The adoption of a legally binding instrument would help Caribbean judges to better carry out their functions and to link environmental issues with human rights and rights of access. It was important to develop concepts such as the spiritual view of the environment. He encouraged the committee to conclude its negotiations in 2016, as agreed, and looked forward to the region's future agreement on Principle 10.

36. The representative of UNEP listed the activities carried out on access rights, including the Inter-American Congress on the Environmental Rule of Law and the workshops held with ECLAC in Saint Lucia and Panama. She commented on the recent publication of the guides for implementation of the Bali Guidelines and encouraged participants to use them.

Adoption of modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee (agenda item 3)

37. The representatives of Chile and Costa Rica, in their capacity as co-chairs of the Presiding Officers of the negotiating committee, presented the proposed modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean,<sup>4</sup> which they had prepared at the request of the Presiding Officers.

38. They recalled that the countries had agreed, in the Santiago Decision,<sup>5</sup> to establish a negotiating committee with significant public participation in accordance with the provisions and modalities set forth in the Plan of Action adopted in Guadalajara, Mexico. It was further established in the organization and work plan of the negotiating committee<sup>6</sup> that the public would have significant participation in the negotiation process in accordance with the provisions and modalities set forth in the Santiago Decision and the Plan of Action adopted in Guadalajara, Mexico, which would be reviewed, as appropriate, in order to facilitate their application. The reference to significant public participation made in the Declaration on the application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which initiated the regional process, had been reiterated in subsequent documents, such as the road map and the Lima Vision.

39. The proposed modalities had been commissioned by the Presiding Officers and had been widely discussed at two intersessional meetings, held on 28 July and 3 September 2015. The version before them included the comments made at those meetings and those submitted in writing by governments and the public. The modalities were grounded in the underlying purpose of the process —public participation— and were based on previous agreements and on practices that had proven to be effective.

40. Most of the delegations and representatives of the public thanked the co-chairs and backed their proposal, recognizing that it was aligned with the documents, agreed practices and spirit of the process. The representative of Colombia —supported by Argentina, Brazil and Mexico— argued that the text required further discussion and some clarification on points relating to the new stage of the negotiations, such as the intergovernmental nature of the process, the fact that it set no precedent for other present or future negotiation processes and the need to differentiate between the public of the region and that of other regions, among other matters.

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<sup>4</sup> LC/L.4058 (CNP10.2/3).

<sup>5</sup> LC/L.3970.

<sup>6</sup> LC/L.4046.



41. Owing to the lack of consensus on the co-chairs' proposal and considering that the main purpose of the meeting was to negotiate the substantive aspects of the compiled text (the preamble and articles 1 to 10), it was agreed that an informal working group would be formed, open to all countries and the public, and led by Colombia and Mexico, which would convene when the plenary was not in session and propose alternative modalities for the committee's consideration.

Negotiation of the regional agreement on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (agenda item 4)

42. Delegations had before them the document *Text compiled for the second meeting of the negotiating committee by the Presiding Officers incorporating the language proposals received from the countries on the preamble and articles 1 to 10 of the preliminary document on the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean*.<sup>7</sup> As agreed, the negotiations centred on the preamble and articles 1 to 10 of the preliminary document with the language proposals submitted by the countries before 31 August 2015 and included in the compiled text. The *Compilation of inputs submitted by the public. Note by the secretariat*<sup>8</sup> was also made available.

43. The representative of Panama recalled that Chile and Costa Rica, as co-chairs, and Panama, as host country, had circulated a note prior to the second meeting of the committee suggesting that the negotiations should proceed according to the order of the document, beginning with article 1 and only reviewing the preamble after covering articles 1 to 10, with a view to facilitating the discussions of the preamble. The representative of Argentina —supported by Colombia and Mexico— said that the preamble contained important elements for discussion and proposed that the negotiations begin there. It was decided that they would negotiate the elements in the order in which they appeared in the document and it was agreed that any paragraphs and language proposals that countries wished to put forward and that were not included in the compiled text could be presented as they reached the relevant point in the document and discussed after reviewing the existing text. Proposals for new paragraphs that were not in the compiled text and not readily accessible would be sent by e-mail to the secretariat to facilitate their inclusion.

44. Before analysing the preamble, the representative of Brazil said that the term “agreement” in Portuguese prejudged the nature of the instrument and therefore requested that it be referred to as a “regional instrument” or “regional convention”, as those were the terms used in the Declaration. In addressing the point, the Chair recalled that the legal nature of the instrument had yet to be agreed and would be discussed at a later date.

45. Several delegates and members of the public spoke on the significant progress that had been made within the framework of the process, including the adoption of the San José Content and the Lima Vision, and they were confident that further progress would be made at the meeting. They recalled that all of the countries had had the opportunity to contribute their inputs to the preliminary document and commended the participating countries for assuming ownership of the process. Furthermore, the future agreement should have a strong Latin American and Caribbean quality, reflecting the rights-based approach, the core elements of environmental democracy and the right to live in a healthy environment. Those features had been reaffirmed throughout the process and included in the Lima Vision and other documents.

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<sup>7</sup> LC/L.4059(CNP10.2/4).

<sup>8</sup> DDR/1.

46. The delegate of Colombia reserved the right to specify, modify or expand on comments made in the meeting. The delegate of Mexico expressed the same reservations.

47. The negotiating committee reviewed the paragraphs of the preamble in the order in which they appeared in the compiled text, article 1 and the definitions of “access rights”, “public participation”, “public”, “directly affected public” and “environmental decision-making” contained in article 2. It was agreed that the country putting forward each new or alternative proposal would be reflected, as would any countries supporting the proposal, on the understanding that any countries not mentioned preferred the original text of the preliminary document prepared by ECLAC at the request of the countries. Furthermore, the points on which consensus was reached in the meeting room were marked as “agreed”. The secretariat said that the second version of the compiled text resulting from the meeting would be available on the website of the process.<sup>9</sup>

#### Other matters (agenda item 5)

48. A participant in the informal open group that had been working in parallel on the proposed modalities for participation of the public, prepared by the co-chairs at the request of the Presiding Officers, reported back to the plenary on the progress made and read a list of concerns raised by the participating countries in the informal group, which are reflected in the document *Proposed modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (second version)* (LC/L.4058/Rev.1).<sup>10</sup> It was agreed that a period of time would be allotted to attempting to integrate those concerns into the proposal drafted by the co-chairs. Once that period had elapsed, the representatives of the countries participating in the second meeting of the negotiating committee agreed to continue considering the proposed modalities, with a view to their adoption at the third meeting of the negotiating committee. The secretariat said that the new version of the proposed modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee would be available on the website of the process.

49. Participants then considered the draft agreements of the meeting. In response to concerns expressed regarding the incorporation in the second version of the compiled text of any future proposals submitted by countries before the third meeting of the negotiating committee, the secretariat confirmed that the proposals sent between 31 August and the second meeting of the committee that were not included in the initial compiled text and those raised during the meeting would be reflected in the new version of the text and identified as having not been reviewed in the meeting room. Furthermore, all contributions would be published on the website of the negotiation process and distributed as requested by each delegation.

50. Several representatives remarked on the usefulness of the compilation of inputs submitted by the public and expressed appreciation for the collaborative and proactive role played by the public to date.

51. After expressing their comments and opinions, the countries adopted the agreements contained in annex 1 by consensus.

52. In view of the kind offer of the Government of Uruguay, it was agreed that the third meeting of the negotiating committee would be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 5 to 8 April 2016. A fourth meeting would also be held at a place and on a date as yet to be decided.

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<sup>9</sup> See [online] <http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/en>.

<sup>10</sup> See [online] [http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/sites/default/files/c1501241modalidades\\_eng.pdf](http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/sites/default/files/c1501241modalidades_eng.pdf).

**Closing session**

53. At the closing session, statements were made by Joseluis Samaniego, Chief of the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division of ECLAC, and Emilio Sempris, Deputy Minister for the Environment of Panama.

54. The Director of the Division for Sustainable Development and Human Settlements of ECLAC thanked the Government of Panama for its efforts and for the aptitude shown in conducting the meeting and the delegations for their active participation, which had enabled significant progress to be made. He expressed satisfaction with the trust placed in ECLAC to move the process forward and called for stronger South-South cooperation and capacity-building.

55. The Deputy Minister for the Environment of Panama joined in giving thanks to the participants and commended ECLAC for its diligent support. He stressed the significance of the progress made in negotiating the text of the future agreement and called for sustained efforts to conclude the agreement as soon as possible through inclusion, dialogue and compromise, which would boost integration in the region and set an example for the rest of the world to follow.



## Annex 1

**AGREEMENTS**

The representatives of the countries participating in the second meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Panama City from 27 to 29 October 2015, agree to:

1. *Acknowledge* the significant progress made in the negotiations on the preamble and articles 1 and 2 of the text compiled by the Presiding Officers, which shall be presented in a second version of the document;

2. *Resume* the negotiations on articles 2 to 10 at the third meeting of the negotiating committee, using the second version of the compiled text, and review outstanding issues from the preamble to article 10;

3. *Continue* considering the proposed modalities for participation of the public in the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean proposed by the co-chairs, with a view to their adoption at the third meeting of the negotiating committee;

4. *Thank* the Government of Uruguay for the invitation to hold the third meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean in Uruguay, from 5 to 8 April 2016;

5. *Convene* the fourth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean at a place and on a date as yet to be decided;

6. *Thank* the people and the Government of Panama for their hospitality and the effort devoted to the organization of the second meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Annex 2

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**A. Países signatarios de la Declaración  
Signatory countries of the Declaration**

**ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA/ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA**

Representante/Representative:

- Maureen Payne, Junior Minister, Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs, email: paynep@hotmail.com

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**CHILE**

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Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Francisco Cruz, Embajador de Chile en Panamá
- Arturo Navarro, Cónsul de Chile en Panamá

**COLOMBIA**

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**COSTA RICA**

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**GUATEMALA**

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## **HONDURAS**

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## **PANAMÁ/PANAMA**

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- Rozío Ramírez, Asesoría Legal, Autoridad de los Recursos Acuáticos de Panamá
- Javier Marquínez, Asesor Legal, Ministerio de la Presidencia
- Andrés Quijano, Asesor Jurídico, Ministerio de Vivienda y Ordenamiento Territorial (MIVIOT)
- Lisbeth Espinosa, Asesora Jurídica, Autoridad Nacional de Administración de Tierras (ANATI)
- David Medina Magallón, Oficina de Asesoría Legal, Autoridad de Turismo de Panamá (ATP)
- Luis Camazón, Dirección de Asesoría Legal, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social
- Marlen de la Rosa, Dirección de Asesoría Legal, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social
- Edwin Pinzón, Dirección de Organismos y Conferencias Internacionales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Genoveva Quinte, Dirección de Gestión Integrada de Cuencas Hidrográficas (DIGICH), Ministerio de Ambiente

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## **PERÚ/PERU**

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**B. Secretaría de las Naciones Unidas  
United Nations Secretariat**

**Comisión Económica para Europa (CEPE)/Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)**

- Jerzy Jendroska, member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee

**C. Organismos de las Naciones Unidas  
United Nations bodies**

**Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**

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**D. Organizaciones intergubernamentales  
Intergovernmental organizations**

**Organización de Estados del Caribe Oriental (OECS)/Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)**

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**E. Invitados especiales  
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**G. Secretaría  
Secretariat**

**Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)**

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