



2 May 2000

Honourable David Anderson
Minister of the Environment (Canada)

Mtra. Julia Carabias
Secretary of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries (Mexico)

Ms. Carol M. Browner
Environmental Protection Agency Administrator (United States)

Dear Council Members:

Having learned that the Alternate Representatives meeting of 8–9 May has been cancelled, I am obliged, on behalf of JPAC, to communicate with you, once again, our frustration and growing unease with how matters related to Articles 14 & 15 are being managed.

When we took our decision, on March 24, to communicate with Council, we did so out of genuine concern that the credibility of the CEC was at stake. I regret to say that we have had no response to that letter. Given the recent public outcry, I also regret to say that our fears have indeed materialized and JPAC can only empathize with the dismay now being expressed by the public.

We find ourselves, almost one year since the Banff Council Session, with a submission process totally frustrated by the inability of the Parties to resolve an ever-expanding level of confusion surrounding interpretation, conducted in private and with unclear intent.

I urge you, on behalf of JPAC, to use your good offices to move forward and conclude this urgent matter consistent with the spirit and intent of the NAAEC.

Respectfully,

Regina Barba
JPAC Chair for 2000

cc. JPAC Members
CEC Alternate Representatives
CEC Executive Director
National and Governmental Advisory Committees Members