



Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC)

Comité Consultivo Público Conjunto (CCPC)

Comité consultatif public mixte (CCPM)

5 August 2003

The Honorable David Anderson  
Minister of the Environment (Canada)

Administrator Marianne L. Horinko  
Acting Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency

Licenciado Victor Lichtinger  
Secretary, Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resource (Mexico)

Licenciado Fernando Canales Clariond  
Secretary, Secretariat of Economy (Mexico)

The Honorable Pierre Pettigrew  
Minister of the International Trade (Canada)

Ambassador Robert Zoellick  
Trade Representative (The United States)

Dear Trade and Environment Ministers:

On behalf of the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America, let me bring to your attention the high degree of interest that we and the North American public have in a joint meeting of trade and environment ministers to take place in the context of the North American Agreement for Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC).

So far, despite announcements made during the three last regular sessions of the CEC Council, no date for the meeting has been confirmed and we have no indication that officials have discussed an agenda recently proposed for your consideration.

Respectfully, ministers, you have a responsibility to demonstrate your support and commitment to NAFTA and NAAEC for ensuring that the basic principles of sustainable development continue to guide your decisions. I strongly believe that such a meeting and an agreement on direction for concrete actions that build on the successes of these both international agreements would convey a very positive message to civil society.

I urge that the planning of a date for this very important meeting be concluded as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

[Original signed]

Gustavo Alanis-Ortega  
JPAC Chair for 2003

c.c. JPAC members  
CEC Acting Executive Director  
NAC/GAC Chairs